

Additional Teacher Made Activities

By Debi Hall

Numeracy Ideas



Birthday Book- Purchase a photo album, add children's pictures along with their name, birth date, and how old they are. Also encourages literacy.



Activity cards- list activities such as measuring with an inch worm (to make the inch worm- cut a strip of paper into a worm shape and make a line every inch) and/or patterning (provide laminated construction paper in various colors). These cards can be sent home to promote continued education.



Songs w/props- make props for songs and finger plays. Children have a visual of the number.



Die-cut/sticker matching cards- Die-cut various shapes (based on theme for example), glue to construction paper, and laminate. Children can play with the cards as a matching activity or turn them over for a memory game. If using stickers, stick them on card stock and laminate.



Number cards- Make matching number (and/or letter cards). Store in a file box. Leave out for children to use as they like.



Board game- Use stickers and pictures to make a board game. This has the life cycle of a caterpillar on it. The cards have dots which tell the player how many spaces to move. Game tokens are butterflies. This game is played like Candyland.

Literacy



Props for stories- Have a large hat (stocking) and a mitten to go along The Hat and The Mitten books. Print off the pictures on Jan Brett's website and laminate them. This makes the story more hands-on.



Story pieces- Clip art, iron on transfers, and coloring books are among sources to find pictures to go along with stories. Have the children use the pieces to retell the story.



Computer games- Use software to create stories. Children make the picture with the program and then tell an adult about their page. Adult types the words. Print and make a classroom book. Program used on these two pages: Jump Start Art for Fun.



Class Song Book- Instead of just singing a song, and having the children memorize it, print the song out and decorate the page. Put each page into a binder. Show the pages to the children each time you sing. The children will get to know the song based on the pictures.



Rhyming Pockets- Cut out a pocket shape. Glue a picture along with the name of the picture to the front. Laminate. Add Velcro as a closure. Make and laminate cards that rhyme with the word/picture on front. Make several different rhyme pockets. Children pick which word cards rhyme and put them in the appropriate pocket.



Color sheets- Have a spot colored in and include the word for the color.



File folder words- Include picture and name. Set near Writing Area so children learn to write the names of items. This can be based on theme. For example: Animals...have a picture with each name...lion, tiger, elephant, etc.

Miscellaneous



Paint cans- Cut off section of water bottle. Paint the inside of the bottle (may need a couple of coats). Glue a piece of grey felt around the top to prevent cuts. Children pretend to paint with the different colors.



Dice- Children love to roll dice. The one with colors on it can be used for a teacher made game or for color recognition. The one with the different faces on it can be used to discuss feelings (what they are and how they look). These patterns were found at <http://www.senteacher.org/Print/>.



Storage ideas- These are metal containers with a Dr. Seuss theme. Two of them were bought at dollar stores and the other one was bought at Big Lot. The tall container has three sections so I have a different activity in each section: 1- plastic fish for matching, 2- stickers with numbers on them for counting or matching, and 3- laminated stickers for matching.