



BOOKMATES'

LOVE, LAUGH, LEARN: Weekly Literacy Resources



The Paper Bag Princess by Robert Munsch



This is a classic children's book that tells the story of Elizabeth, an independent, strong princess who outsmarts a dragon and rescues a Prince.

If you don't have the book at home, copy and paste this link to have Robert Munsch read the book to you:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=1&v=t1TYZ5xGJRM&feature=emb_logo

Whether or not you read the book, try these activities that will support your child's learning:

Make Your Own Fire Breathing Dragon

Materials needed: toilet paper roll, green paint, markers or paper, tissue paper, glue or tape (Optional: pompoms and googly eyes)

Paint or colour the toilet paper roll green, or cover it with green paper. Tear or cut the tissue paper into long strips and then glue or tape to the inside of the toilet paper roll at one end. You can draw eyes, nose, mouth and any other decorations on, or glue pompoms or googly eyes into place. Blow through the tube and watch the "fire" move with each breath!



Paper Bag Puppets

Materials needed: Paper bags, markers, Optional: paint, scissors, glue, yarn, gems, material pieces, stickers, bingo dabbers, any kind of art materials you can use for decorating!

Allow your child to create whatever they want out of the paper bag. You can show them how you can put your hand inside and tuck it into the fold to "talk". Perhaps your child will create a princess, a prince or a dragon and re-tell the story they have just heard, or maybe they will be inspired to create their own character. See if you can get them to tell a story using their puppet as a prompt. This is great for vocabulary building, story sequencing, and creative play!



GET ACTIVE!!!

- Pretend you are the dragon and see how many times you can run around "the world" (the living room, the yard, the house etc.)
- Everyone picks a character and then acts out the story. This story has lots of movement and actions. Encourage the dramatic!
- Play "freeze tag" where one person is the Princess and another is the Dragon. Everyone else is a Prince. When the game starts the Princess must run around and tag the Princes. If a Prince is tagged, they are "frozen" (must stay in one place and position) until the Dragon comes along to breathe on them and free them to run again.

SING TOGETHER

All Around The Great Big World

(Tune: Pop Goes the Weasel)

All around the great big world,
The Princess chased the dragon,
The dragon thought it was all in fun,
ROAR went the dragon!



I'm a Little Princess

(Tune: I'm a Little Teapot)

I'm a little princess, here is my crown,
Here are my slippers and here is my gown.
If the dragon finds me, I won't be shy,
I'll tickle him and tickle him and wave good-bye!

Need a laugh? Try this joke with your child:

What do you get when you kiss a dragon?

Answer: Burnt lips!



Literacy Tip of the week: The Importance of Sharing Stories



Children love hearing stories, whether it's about your day, a memory, or reading from a book. Storytelling is a great way to spend time with your child and it offers a lot of benefits for the entire family.

5 Benefits of Sharing Stories with Your Children

1. **Develop vocabulary** – Many words found in stories may not be commonly used in day to day life or conversations.
2. **Learn about the world** - Young children may not always be aware that there is a world that exists beyond their home, street, neighbourhood or city. Try and include stories from different cultures to give your child a broader understanding of the world.
3. **Build attachment** – Snuggling up and sharing stories creates parent-child attachment and bonding that allows a child to feel safe, secure and loved.
4. **Share your family's culture** - Telling your children stories from your childhood and about various activities and celebrations from your past will make them more familiar with their own family culture.
5. **Help to make sense of difficult concepts** - Difficult situations can often end up leaving children feeling confused. Stories about various characters facing difficult situations can help them understand these concepts better. Try and tell stories that teach children that pain and suffering are a part of life as much as happiness and fun times are. The right stories can help your child become well-equipped to face life and various situations.



Make Your Own Book:



This week's book: A Paper Bag Book

Materials needed: paper bags, markers or crayons, hole punch, yarn

Take 2 or 3 paper bags and lay them on top of one another, alternating top to bottom. Punch holes along one side and weave yarn through to create a binding. *Note, it can be difficult to punch through multiple bags so you might want to hole punch one at a time.

Decorate the pages as you like – tell your own story about a paper bag princess! Notice that you will have “lift the flap” options where the bottoms of the bags overlap, as well as openings at the top of the bags. Be creative!



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