

Wichita Collegiate School Early Childhood Read and Romp Day Activity Ideas for 2007



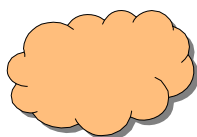
Bunny Day by Rick Walton

At this station there will be a relay using the hippity hops that children sit on and bounce. Students will be placed in lines behind color cones and a matching color cone will be placed a short distance away. When the race begins, the first student will sit on the hippity hop, bounce down to the cone, get off the hippity hop, and carry the hippity hop back to the start. He then gives the hippity hop to the next person in line and goes to the end of the line. Continue until everyone has had a turn. Repeat the relay if time permits.



One Winter's Day by M. Christine Butler

The children will play a game called Hedgehog Tag. One child will be the tagger and will carry a hedgehog beanie baby. On the word "go," the tagger tries to tag the children who are running around within the established boundaries. To avoid being tagged, a child may squat down into a ball position, but may only stay there until the count of three. After that, the child must get up and run again. If a child is tagged, he must take the hedgehog and become the tagger. If a tagger has difficulty catching someone within a reasonable amount of time, simply stop the game and choose a new tagger. *Important - Do not allow children to roll up in a ball on the ground, as this is dangerous to them and the other runners. Ask children to simply squat down with their heads up so they can see other runners.



It's Your Cloud by Joe Troian

This is a dance activity that will be taught by the dance instructor. She will have partners working together to create cloud movements and to show how a cloud can take on a shape that can make it look like something entirely different. (A parachute or scarves could be used for this activity, as well.)



Snow Friends by M. Christine Butler

This is the snack area. The room will have a Winter Wonderland theme and will be decorated with hanging snowflakes, snowballs, snowmen, a silver moon, stars, bunnies, bears, the otter from the story, bare trees, and snow covered evergreen trees and mountains. All decorations will be made by students. The book will be read while children are served a snack mixture of Kix cereal, Care

Bears fruit snacks, mini-marshmallows, heart and bunny shaped cheddar cheese crackers, and mini granola bites. Water will be served.



Do You Have a Hat? by Eileen Spinelli

This is a relay. Students will be divided into three lines. In front of each line will be a crate with laminated photos of various hats. The actual matching hats will be spread out all over the floor in front of the three relay lines. (I actually took a picture of every hat we used so the children could match up the exact hat to the picture.) On the word “go,” the first person in each line will reach into a crate, pull out one picture, run to find that exact hat, bring the hat back to the line, and put it in a container. The next person will then take a turn. This continues until all the hats have been matched for each line. If time permits, rotate students to a different line and run the relay again so they can find new hats. Volunteers will need to spread the hats out all over the floor following the end of each relay.



The Midnight Unicorn by Neil Reed

This is a ring toss game. Children will be divided up into three lines and will be placed behind a cone facing a unicorn which has been painted on a board. The unicorn will have a horn extending from the forehead. Each line will have three hula hoops or three rings. The first person in each line will take three tries at ringing the unicorn’s horn. When finished this person will go to the end of the line and the next person will take a turn. If you have a very competitive group, you may keep track of the total number of times each line rings the horn, but it is not a necessity. Remember to adjust the distance of the throw, depending upon the age of the students at the station.



Aaaarrgghh! A Spider by Lydia Monks

Children will be divided into 3 lines. Each line will be given 3 spider balls. The first person in each line will roll the spider balls one at a time towards a net (spider web) which has been placed on the floor an appropriate distance from the line. (This should be adjusted according to the age of the students at the station.) Try to encourage students to step forward with the opposite foot when they roll the spider ball. A point is awarded each time a spider lands in the web. Keep track of how many points each line receives. Continue until time is up. After each student’s turn, volunteers at each net can roll spider balls back to the students in line so the activity will move quickly.



Dog's Colorful Day by Emma Dodd

Students will be divided into three relay lines. In front of each line will be a bucket filled with colorful dots with Velcro on the back. Ahead of each line will be a table with a laminated poster board dog (the same dog that is in the story) that has colored circles with Velcro inside the circle. The first person in each line will reach into the bucket, take out a dot, and run ahead to the table with the dog poster. The student will find the correct color of circle on the dog and fill in the spot. After doing this, the student will return to the end of his line and the next person will take a turn. When the relay is done, the dog will have all of his colorful spots.



Doing the Animal Bop by Jan Ormerod

The music teacher will lead this station. This activity will involve moving to music and imitating the many ways that the various animals move in the story. In addition, students will be given a card that has half of an animal on it. Someone in the room will have the other half of the same animal. The card is held tightly against the chest as the children move around the room to the music. When the music stops, students will find the person who has the other half of their card and put the two pieces together to form the entire animal. Students will then trade card pieces with another person and the activity will be done again. The final activity will have two people with different animal pieces join together to make a new animal (example - elephant + giraffe) and give it a name (like eleraffe).



Tumble Bumble by Felicia Bond

This station will play a progressive game called "Busy Bee." Students will move around the area to music and when the music stops, the volunteer will say, "**When I say Busy Bee, find a person close to you and stand in front of him or her - Busy Bee.**" At this time students move to find a partner. When everyone has a partner, the volunteer will say, "This is your ant to ant friend," and the volunteer will place his/her pointer fingers on top of his/her head and wiggle them around. The students will do the same. Students need to remember who their ant to ant friend is. The volunteer will then tell the children a new way to move when the music is played. The music plays, the children move, and when the music stops, the volunteer tells the children to find their ant to ant friend. The children do so. Next, the volunteer will say, "When I say Busy Bee, find a new person close to you and stand in front of him or her – Busy Bee." The children move to a new person. The volunteer will then tell the students that this is their cat to cat friend and show them how the cat looks and sounds. The children will

face their friend and imitate. The children will need to remember this person. The volunteer will then tell the children a new way to move when the music is played. The music plays, the children move, and when the music stops, the volunteer tells the children to find their ant to ant friend. The children do so. Next, the volunteer will say, "Find your cat to cat friend." The children do so. The volunteer will then say, "When I say Busy Bee, find a new person close to you and stand in front of him or her – Busy Bee." The children move to a new person. The volunteer will then tell the students that this is their crocodile to crocodile friend and show them what the crocodile does. The children will face their friend and imitate. The children will need to remember this person. As you can see, this activity becomes more challenging as animals are added on and children are required to remember who their partner is for a particular animal. Options are listed below.

*Example - What to say when you are ready to move – "When you hear the music play, move around in a walking way." (Or any other movement option.)

Options for how to move:

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| 1. walking forwards | 5. walking backwards | 9. tip toe |
| 2. marching | 6. crawl | 10. jump on two feet |
| 3. galloping | 7. slow jog | 11. hop on one foot |
| 4. skipping | 8. side slide | 12. crab walk |

Partner Actions:

Ant to Ant friend – face each other and wiggle antennas above the head

Cat to Cat friend – face each other, meow, and make cat paw actions

Crocodile to Crocodile friend – face each other and make big crocodile mouth arms that open and close

Bee to Bee friend – face each other, buzz, and make quick wing actions

Pig to Pig friend – lay on back and pretend to roll in mud, oink like a pig

Frog to Frog friend – squat down facing each other, spring up with big jumps, and say "ribit"

Mouse to Mouse friend – face partner, jog quickly in place, squeak like a mouse

Friend to Friend friend – face each other and shake hands