

Preschool Theme Kits

BOATS

FOR YOU: a copy of these activities is available in back of this notebook.



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more

Judy Press

ACTIVITY NOTEBOOK

BEYOND THE KITS – STORYTIME HANDBOOK Welcome to the *Boats* Theme Kit. Our target age group is 2 to 5 year olds but we have included at least one board book for babies to use. All these books read aloud well, and there are activities, finger plays, and teacher guides to help you. Also, take a look at the general information sheet on the inside cover of this notebook. ENJOY!

Related Activities

-Fun and Games-

SINK OR FLOAT?

What makes boats float? (Buoyancy) Partially fill a bucket, dishpan or water table. Collect a variety of materials: styrofoam, small pieces of wood, metal items, sponges, plastic toys of different sizes, etc.

Let the children experiment and come up with their own ideas and suggestions.

Extension: Make a chart with two columns: **Sink** and **Float** and have children draw a picture of items where they belong.

Caution: never leave small children unattended around even a small amount of water. Children can drown in as little as 1 inch of standing water.



MAKE A SAILBOAT *

Provide each child with a butter tub or small styrofoam meat tray available at the meat counter at grocery stores for a boat. Let them decorate paper cut into a small square or triangle, for a sail.

Attach the sail to a pipe cleaner or straw with tape.

Roll a small mound of playdough or modeling clay and press it into the center of the tub or tray. Stick the pipecleaner/ straw into the clay and the boat is ready! Let children name their boats and write the name on the boat with markers (permanent markers will work best). Extension: The boats will float! Let the children sail their boats, even have boat races.

MORE BOAT RACING *

Have a boat race with the following boat: Let the children decorate a styrofoam plate with markers. Poke a hole in the center of a plate. Put the stem of a 8" round balloon through the hole and blow it up (from underneath the boat/plate). Tie off the balloon. These boats catch the wind well and don't tip over easily. Let the children race their boats two at a time. Of course, some wind is helpful in making the boats move!

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VROOM VROOM – Adult Resource

There is a chapter "In the Water", pp 77-98. Most of these activities call for milk cartons. Try different size cartons, not just the half-gallon size. You can get parents to help save cartons. You could also try alternates: Styrofoam trays and plates, as well as egg cartons.

MR GUMPY'S OUTING

After reading this book, let children act it out. You can make paper plate masks or paper bag puppets of the characters: goat, dog, sheep, chickens, cow, cat, rabbit, pig, children and Mr. Gumpy. Make the outline of a boat on the floor, using masking tape or chalk. Reread the book and have the characters ask if they can come too. One by one they get "in the boat". Everyone tumbles "out of the boat" at the end!

You'll probably have to do this over and over for awhile!

Extension: Act out Who Sank the Boat? in the same way.

MOTOR BOAT

Hold hands with child, start slow, then get faster, and faster, going in a circle. *Or* just roll fists round and round each other, first slow, then fast and faster.

Motor boat, motor boat, Go so slow. Motor boat, motor boat, Go so fast. Motor boat, motor boat, Step on the gas!



-Fingerplays and Action Rhymes-

ROW YOUR BOAT Variation 1

Traditional song, with varitions

Row, row, row your boat Gently down the stream Merrily, merrily, merrily Life is but a dream.

Roll, roll, roll your hands Slowly as can be Roll, roll, roll your hands Do it now with me. Continue verses: Clap, shake, wiggle, etc.

Activity: Pairs of children sit facing each other a small distance apart; legs spread, and holding hands, gently pretend to row a boat, leaning forward and back.



ROW YOUR BOAT * Variation 2

Suit actions to words

Row, row, row your boat Gently down the stream Merrily, merrily, merrily Life is but a dream.

Paddle, paddle, paddle your kayak Out into the sea. Gliding, gliding, gliding, gliding, By islands, beaches and trees.

Zoom, zoom, zoom, your motorboat All around the bay! Waving, waving, waving, waving At people on the way!

Ride, ride, ride the ferry Across the busy straits, Happily, happily, happily riding. I can hardly wait!

Liz Beazizo*

FIVE LITTLE FISHES

Five little fishes swimming in a pool The first fish said, "This pool is cool!" The second fish said, "This pool is deep." The third fish said, "I want to sleep." The fourth fish said, "I spy a ship."

The fourth fish said, "I spy a ship."
Fishing boat comes, line goes
kersplash!

Away the five little fishies dash.

Wiggle five fingers, move arm Shiver and hug yourself Use a low voice Yawn and stretch

Hand shading eyes Throw in line

Fingers "swim" away quickly

SAILING, SAILING Traditional

Sailing sailing over the bounding main For many a stormy wind shall blow E'er Jack comes home again. Oh, sailing, sailing, over the bounding main.

For many a stormy wind shall blow E'er Jack comes home again.

THREE MEN IN A TUB

Rub-a-dub-dub three men in a tub And who do you think they be? The butcher, the baker, the candlestick maker, And all of them gone to sea.

Boats Theme Kit

Questions or Suggestions:

Call the Youth Services Dept. at 360 384-3150

How You Can Help

- Use and return kits promptly so that they are available for others.
- Please check box contents before returning.
- Do not use the book drop. Please return kits inside an open library.