

Swing Into Creative Learning

with

Billy Gorilly



Story Time Resource Kit

BILLY GORILLY AND THE CANDY APPLE TREE FAMILY

music and fun for 4-6 year olds

www.billygorilly.com

Produced by *Tamara Maellaro*

Introduction

teach your children well

Story time is a magical time. It is a time when children are learning, listening, reading, building confidence, and being inspired as they make discoveries about themselves and the world around them.

Creative educators have long recognized the benefit of using music as a teaching tool. Young children are able to grasp even the most complex ideas when rhythms move their feet and melodies dance in their mind. Expanded vocabulary, factual information, inter-personal skills, and strong moral values are all easily presented through music. Billy Gorilly and the Candy Appletree Family make it a breeze to add music to your story/learning sessions. With 16 songs to choose from you are sure to find a theme that will fit your needs.

Themes include:

- Imagination •Friendship •Animals •Nature •Self-confidence
- Planning ahead •Physical activity •Dealing with disappointment •Pets
- Companionship and Loyalty.

Filled with plenty of new ideas, activities, facts, and fun all in one place, it will be easy to plan a great lesson. Children will laugh and learn as they do the “La La Limbo”, make a “Teeny Tiny Flower Arrangement”, or use “Billy Bucks” to play “Even Steven”. In this kit you will find a brief description of each song, a list of possible themes, and many other games, crafts, puzzles, and poems to help you make learning come to life.

Now every story time can be **Simply Splendiferous.**

How to use this resource kit

We have created this resource kit to enhance the learning experience of young children. **Your 4-6 year olds will enjoy listening to the entire CD for pleasure**, just as well as hearing parts of it during a guided story/learning session.

This guide can be viewed “on-line” or downloaded as a .pdf file; **you can print in full or part**. If you will be printing the entire book and plan on using it often we suggest printing on heavyweight paper; inserting the pages into plastic page protectors to store in a binder. This makes a nice presentation and allows you to **easily flip through the pages as you plan your lesson**. When you want to make copies just slide the clean page out and make your duplicates. When you are done put the original back into the binder, ready for next time.

We hope you will turn to this resource kit often, and we welcome your feedback. For questions or comment please contact us at

contactus@billygorilly.com



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Flying Kitten Music
Kingman Publishing
101 N. Citrus Ave. Suite #2
Covina, CA 91723

626.966.7760 telephone
contactus@billygorilly.com email

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WE ARE A FAMILY

BILLY GORILLY (theme song)

Song Tracks: 1 and 2

Description: The Candy Appletree Family invites everyone to sing along and join the fun, because there's enough for everyone. You'll learn all about the friendly blue gorilly as he sings his theme song. His favorite game is "Lets Pretend", so get ready to use your imagination as you enter the Candy Appletree Woods.

Possible Story Time Themes:

- ❖ Families
- ❖ Imagination/Pretending
- ❖ Friendship
- ❖ Thinking positively

Lets Talk

After listening to the songs ask the children what they might see if they were in the imaginary Candy Appletree Woods. Have the children describe what their friends and families like to do for fun. Have them draw a picture of their family or friends.

Sing...

"LET YOUR FAMILY KNOW YOU LOVE 'EM"

Sung to the tune "If You're Happy And You Know It Clap Your Hands". **Look for the sheet music and lyrics in this resource kit;** it has a page of its own.

Activity Pages

Pass out activity pages to the children. They can complete pages during the story/lesson time or take them home as an added bonus. **Downloadable** Billy Gorilly word search, matching puzzle, or memory game would work well with these songs.

www.billygorilly.com/billygorilly_puzzle.html

Let's Pretend

This Little Family Went To Market

Materials Needed

- One paper shopping bag
- One empty milk carton
- One empty egg carton
- One piece of fruit
- One vegetable
- One loaf of bread
- One empty soda bottle
- One empty ice cream container
- Six "1" Billy Bucks*
- Shopping list (Only milk, eggs, fruit, vegetable, and bread. No soda or ice cream)

2. Have the children pretend they're members of an imaginary family
3. Tell them they need to go to the market to buy food for the family
4. Have some one hold the shopping bag
5. Have some one hold the shopping list
6. Have some one hold the Billy Bucks
7. "Go" to the market by gathering around the table holding all the items
8. Buy the items on the list one at a time, each costing one Billy Buck
9. With the one Billy Buck left, have the children decide whether to buy the soda or the ice cream (possibly even take a vote)
10. Tell the children what a good job they did and how the family will be healthy and happy with all this good food to eat.

* **Billy Bucks play money can be found on pages 30-32 of this resource kit. Just download and print.**

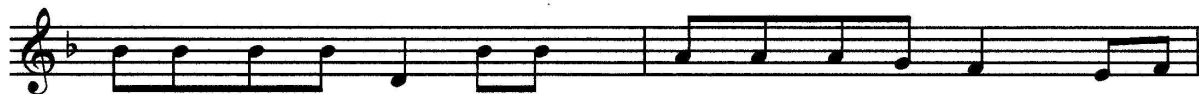
Let Your Family Know You Love 'Em



If you have a lit - tle bro - ther clap your hands (Clap Clap) If you
If you have a big ___ bro - ther stomp your feet (Stomp Stomp) If you
If you are the on - ly child ___ shout Hoo - ray (Hoo - ray) If you
Let your fam - 'ly know you love 'em do all three (*All Three*) Let your



have a lit - tle sis - ter clap your hands (Clap Clap) If you're
have a big ___ sis - ter stomp your feet (Stomp Stomp) If you're
are the on - ly child ___ shout Hoo - ray (Hoo - ray) If you
fam - 'ly know you love 'em do all three (*All Three*) Let your



not the young - est child then you just can't help but smile If you're
not the old - est child then you just can't help but smile If you're
are the on - ly child then you just can't help but smile If you
fam - 'ly know you love 'em and there's no one else a - bove 'em Let your



not the young - est child clap your hands (Clap Clap)
not the old - est child stomp your feet (Stomp Stomp)
are the on - ly child shout Hoo - ray (Hoo - ray)
fam - 'ly know you love 'em do all three (*All Three*)



I HAVE MY VERY OWN ZOO

Song Track: 3

DESCRIPTION: A little girl named Wendy sings a song about her imaginary zoo animals. Violet skunks, tangerine horses, and chocolate tigers are part of the fantasy. Wendy performs a very sweet and simple song that displays the use of her imagination.

Possible Story Time Themes:

- ❖ Color Mysteries (mixing primary colors)
- ❖ Learning colors
- ❖ Zoo animals
- ❖ Real vs. Fantasy

Sing the song...

Mr. Rainbow (Roy G. Biv)

Mister Rainbow, Mister Rainbow
Roy G. Biv, Roy G Biv
Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue,
Indigo, and Violet
Roy G. Biv, Roy G. Biv

Learn the seven colors of the rainbow with the MR. RAINBOW song, sung to the tune "Are You Sleeping?" Sheet music included in this resource kit.

STRING-A-MA-JIG learning colors

Supplies needed:

- Empty container with a plastic lid (Oatmeal container, chip container).
- Colored yarn, 8 - 12 inches of each color - tie the yarn together and tie a big knot or a bead to the end of the last color.
- Cut a hole in the plastic top so the yarn will come out when pulled by the child.
- Place the yarn inside the container. The child pulls the yarn out through the hole and says each color as a new color comes out of the container.

This is a fun way to help kids learn and remember colors.

Activities:

- ❖ Download zoo coloring page at www.billygorilly.com/coloring.html
- ❖ Have the kids draw a rainbow colored snake. We have included a snake-coloring page in this resource kit.

Book Suggestion:

SONG AND JUNIPER by August Hall
published by Big Kid Books—a story about a young girl and her pet "liger". Beautifully illustrated short story.

<http://www.songandjuniper.com>

Mr. Rainbow

(Roy G. Biv)

Sung to the Tune
"Are You Sleeping?"



Mis - ter Rain - bow Mis - ter Rain - bow



Roy G. Biv Roy G. Biv



Red, Orange, Yel - low, Green, Blue,



In - di - go, and Vio - - - let



Roy G. Biv Roy G. Biv

Rainbow Snake



HOPPING TOADS AND JUMPING FROGS

Song Track: 4

Description: A fun song to teach children facts about frogs. They will learn about the environment that frogs live in, what they eat, their appearance, and more. The extremely smart Owlton W. Hootley sings this song. Before Owlton begins singing he talks with Billy Gorilly about wanting to be "COOL". Billy helps him understand that it is OK to be smart and "kind of nerdy".



Possible Story Time Themes:

- ❖ Learning about Amphibians (frogs and toads)
- ❖ Pets
- ❖ It's "COOL" to be smart
- ❖ Having a frog as a pet

10 Facts About Frogs

1. Frogs eat insects.
2. Most frogs live near water.
3. They have flipper (webbed) feet.
4. Frogs jump and hop.
5. They start out as pollywogs.
6. Lay their eggs in ponds.
7. Like cold water.
8. Sit on stones and logs.
9. They usually don't have scales.
10. Usually have a sticky tongue.

DID YOU KNOW: When a frog swallows a meal, his bulgy eyeballs will close and go down into his head! This is because the eyeballs apply pressure and actually push a frog's meal down his throat!
YUM

Activities

- ❖ Have the kids hop straight up into the air every time they hear "hop or jump" while listening to the song.
- ❖ Download the frog and toad word scramble at:
www.billygorilly.com/billygorilly_puzzles.html
- ❖ Download frog coloring page at:
www.billygorilly.com/coloring.html
- ❖ Create lily pads for the kids to sit on. Draw a lily pad on green construction paper, cutout and laminate. Place on floor so the kids can sit on them. Now you can play musical lily pads (play just like musical chairs.)

BOOK SUGGESTIONS

Frog and Toad Together
(Harper Festival) by Arnold Lobel

Five Green And Speckled Frogs
(Scholastic) by Priscilla Burris

Websites with good frog information

www.nationalgeographic.com/kids/index.html

www.pca.state.mn.us/kids/frogsforkids.html

www.meddybemps.com/9.500.html

<http://allaboutfrogs.org/>

www.kiddyhouse.com/Themes/frogs/

DINOSAURS

Song Track: 5

Description: Billy Gorilly sings this energetic rap based song that takes kids on a lollapalooza joy ride back in time. Children will learn the names of different dinosaurs as Billy does this tongue-twisting rap.

This song will be a great addition to the 2007 Summer Library Program "Get a Clue". "DINOSAURS" fits perfectly with the theme DIG it up...Mysteries from the past.

Possible Story Time Themes:

- ❖ Learning about dinosaurs
- ❖ Learning about fossils (mysteries from the past).
- ❖ Paleontology



Tips and Resources:

- This song would be a great way to start your story time. Get the kids energized about the subject. Alternatively, the song can be played during the session when the kids get fidgety.
- Dinosaur finger or hand puppets can be used to show the children what some of the dinosaurs looked like. The instructor can use the puppets to animate the song (dinosaurs flying, swimming, crawling).
- Teach the children how fossils leave clues that help us figure out what happened in the world many years ago.
- Using visual clues such as pictures or puppets, have the children determine if the dinosaurs fly, run, swim, or crawl.
- Have the children sing along with the song and repeat the names of the dinosaurs along with Billy Gorilly as he raps. Can they do it? He raps pretty fast!

Activities

Download dinosaur crossword puzzle at www.billygorilly.com/billygorilly_puzzles.html

Dino mazes found in this resource kit.

Follow the color clues on a Dinosaur Egg Hunt

Materials Needed

- Dinosaur Eggs * (printed on heavy paper)
- Small brown paper lunch bag (nest)

Prepare in Advance

- Cut out Dinosaur Eggs
 - Place Dinosaur Eggs #2-#8 at various locations around the room
1. Explain to the children that dinosaurs laid eggs.
 2. Read the clue on Dinosaur Egg #1, pause before reading the name of the dinosaur to let the children guess.
 3. Read the directions at the bottom of Dinosaur Egg #1 to let the children know which egg to look for next.
 4. Repeat the process until all the eggs are gathered.
 5. Place all the eggs in the nest, let the children know that because they did such a good job and knew so much about dinosaurs that all the eggs are safe now.

* Dinosaur eggs can be found in this resource kit.

1

Three horns on the head of this big dino,
when it was in danger it charged like a
rhino.
It's a.....Triceratops!

Next find the egg
with the Orange #2

2

My front legs are longer than the back,
I eat veggies when I snack.
I'm aBrachiosaurus!

Next find the egg
with the Yellow #3.

3

Bony plates on my back shaped like a sail,
and also spikes at the end of my tail.
I'm aStegosaurus!

Next find the egg with
the light Green #4

4

I run so fast in a race I'm the winner,
I use my claws when I eat my dinner.
I'm a.....Velociraptor!

Next find the egg with
the Dark Green #5

5

My tail in the water makes a swish,
I can swim just like a fish.
I'm an.....!chthysaurus!

Next find the egg with
the Light Blue #6

6

I'm big and mean as anything,
look out world I am the king.
I'm a.....Tyrannosaurus Rex!

Next find the egg
with the Dark Blue #7.

7

I fly around just like a bird,
when you spell my name it's a funny word.
I'm a.....Pterodactyl!

Next find the egg
with the Purple #8.

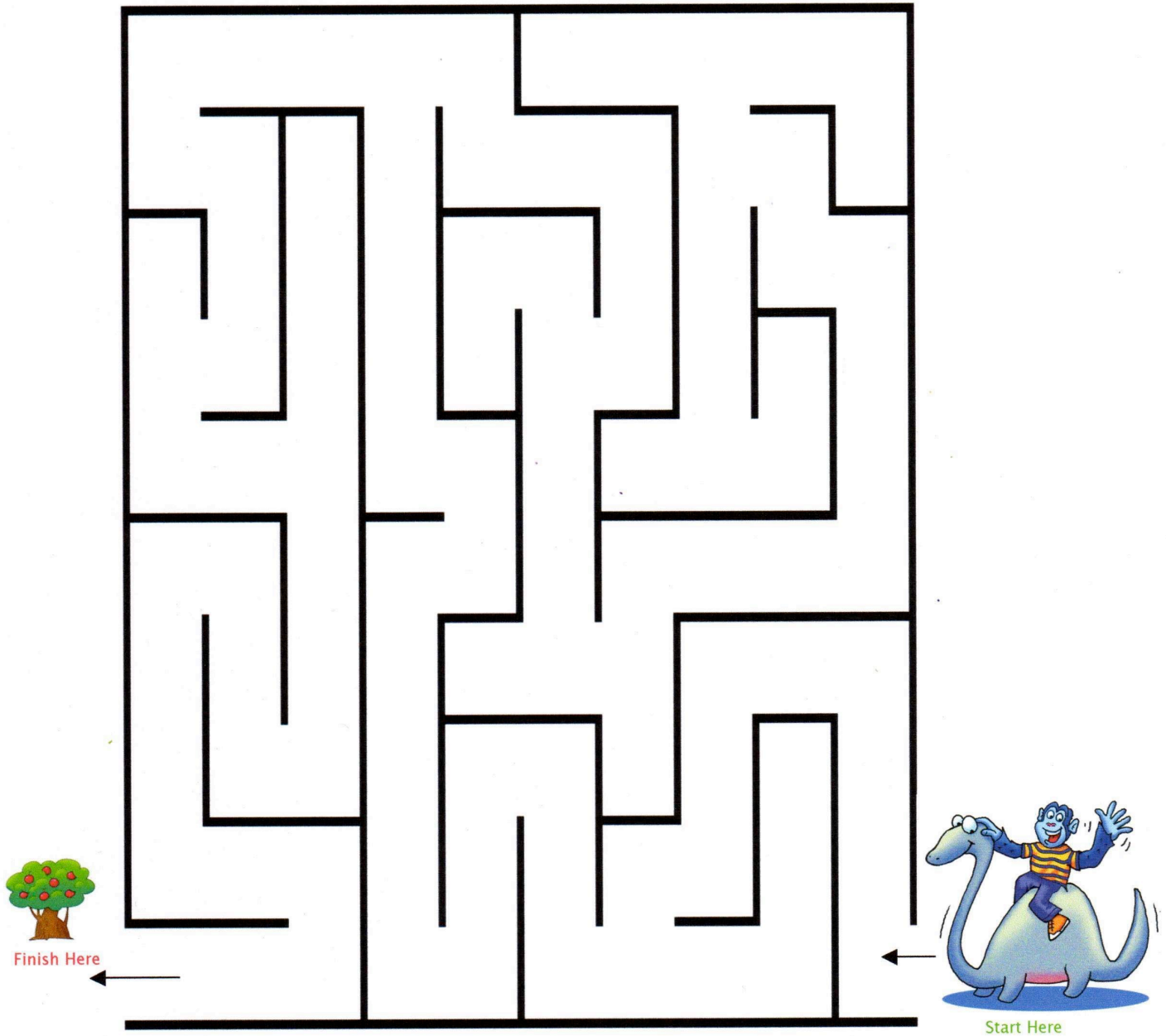
8

Dinosaurs big and small,
I confess I like them all.

Help Billy Gorilly

and the dinosaur make their way through the maze.

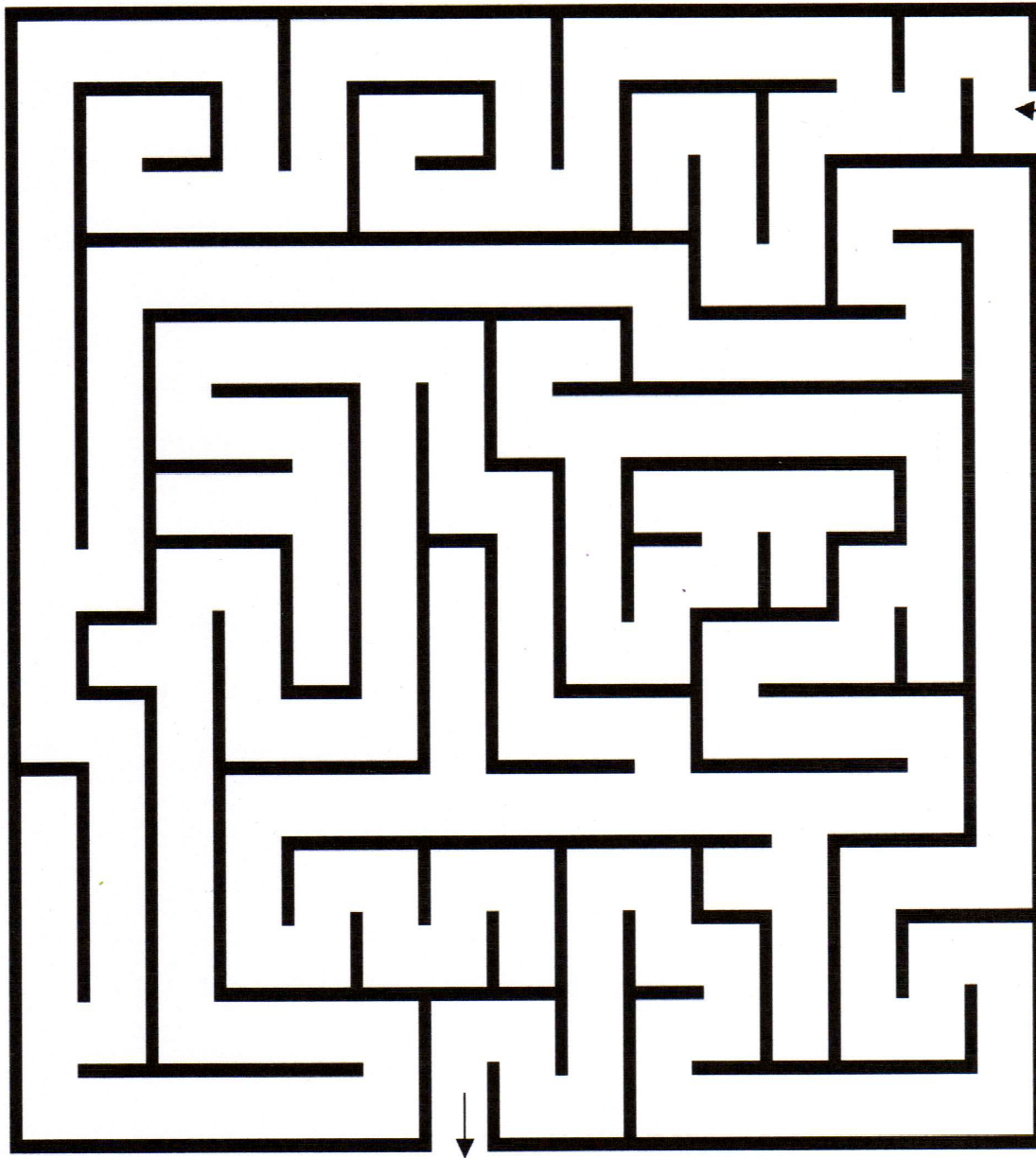
Use a pencil to trace a line through the maze.



Help Billy Gorilly

and the dinosaur make their way through the maze.

Use a pencil to trace a line through the maze.



Start Here



End Here

THE CLAPPING SONG

Song Track: 6

Description: “Come on everybody, won’t you clap along”. **THE CLAPPING SONG**” is a real crowd pleaser. So get up on your feet and follow along as Billy Gorilly leads the way. Laugh and giggle as you try to get it right. Don’t worry if you make a mistake, its all part of the fun.

Possible Story Time Themes:

- ❖ Following along.
- ❖ Movement fun.
- ❖ Music—gaining a sense of rhythm.



Tips and Resources

- ❖ This is a great song to use when you are teaching about rhythm or following along.
- ❖ Play this song when you want to have the kids use up some of their excess energy.
- ❖ Have the children try to make gorilly sounds like Bill Gorilly as they listen to the music.

DID YOU KNOW?

- ❖ Seals are among the animals that clap.
- ❖ Inhalation therapists (medical people that help you take care of your lungs) frequently use clapping (light slaps with a cupped hand on a patient's back, chest, and under arms) to dislodge mucus from breathing passages in order to improve airflow.

Freeze Dance

Play *THE CLAPPING SONG* and have the children dance to it. When you stop the music have the children freeze in place. Start the music back up and the kids start dancing again. This is sure to get some giggles.

Bean Tambourine—Give each child two small paper plates. Let the children decorate them. Place the two plates together, edge-to-edge; staple around the plate edges leaving a small area to fill the plate with beans, securely staple the open edge together. Let the kids have fun shaking and clapping on their bean tambourine. **Due to their small size beans pose a choking hazard—not intended for children under 4 years of age.**

THERE'S A TIGER LIVING AT MY HOUSE



Song Track: 7

Description: Using your imagination is the focus of this song as Wendy pretends her cat is a tiger. Children will enter the world of make believe while listening to Wendy describe the fun she has with her pet.

Possible Story Time Themes:

- ❖ Pets
- ❖ Cats
- ❖ The world of make believe.
- ❖ Animals

10 Cat Facts

1. Light-colored cats can get sunburn, especially on their nose and ear tips.
2. Cats sleep almost all of the time! They are awake about 4 or 5 hours every day.
3. Feeding bones is not good for cats. Hard bones can break teeth, and bone splinters, splinters and chips can get caught in the digestive system.
4. Cats are pure carnivores. This means that they must eat a meat diet to obtain proper nutrition.
5. A cat arches its back and its fur stands up to make it look bigger to an enemy.
6. When cats fall they do not always land on their feet.
7. Cats use their whiskers as feelers.
8. A cat's hearing is much more sensitive than humans and dogs.
9. When a cat drinks, its tongue – which has tiny barbs on it – scoops the liquid up backwards.
10. Cats step with both left legs, then both right legs when they walk or run.

Similarities between House Cats & Tigers

- ◆ Both have retractable claws (they can hide them). This keeps them sharp.
- ◆ Both have an extra scent organ in the roof of their mouth called the vomeronasal
- ◆ Both silently stalk, then pounce on what they're trying to catch
- ◆ Neither can taste sweetness
- ◆ Both are almost exclusively carnivores
- ◆ Same shaped heads and muzzles
- ◆ Both have pointed ears
- ◆ Both have large eyes
- ◆ Both have sensitive whiskers around their mouth
- ◆ Both have scratchy tongues which helps with drinking and grooming
- ◆ Both have long tails
- ◆ Both can see well in very dim light
- ◆ Both are fast runners for short distances
- ◆ Both are good jumpers
- ◆ Both are good at climbing trees

Taking Care Of A Cat

- ◆ Give your cat fresh water every day. You do not need to give your cat milk.
- ◆ Feed your cat food that is made from beef, chicken, or fish.
- ◆ Choose a cat food that is right for your cat's age and weight. For example, if you have a kitten, be sure to buy kitten food.
- ◆ Keep the litter box clean. Cats like it fresh!
- ◆ Keep string-like objects like tinsel, threads and rubber bands out of reach. These things could hurt your cat.
- ◆ Take your cat to the vet (animal doctor) for vaccines so it will not get sick.

MY DOG SKIP

Song Track: 8

Description: A little boy named “Timmy” sings this song about the companionship and loyalty of his pet dog, Skip.



Possible Story Time Themes:

- ❖ Animals
- ❖ Pets
- ❖ Companionship and loyalty
- ❖ Friendship

10 Facts About Dogs

1. Baby dogs are called puppies.
2. Dogs can hear sounds that humans can't.
3. Specially trained dogs help people that are blind.
4. Dogs have 42 teeth.
5. When a dog gets hot he will stick his tongue out and pant to cool off.
6. A dogs' sense of smell is about 1000 times better than a humans'.
7. When a puppy is born its eyes stay closed for one or two weeks.
8. Chocolate can make dogs sick.
9. Dalmatians are born white. Their black spots come in later.
10. The smartest dogs are Poodles, Golden Retrievers, and Border Collies.

BOOK SUGGESTIONS

- ❖ **Fun Dog, Sun Dog** (Marshall Cavendish)
By Deborah Heiligman, Tim Bowers
- ❖ **My Dog Talks** (Scholastic)
By Gail Herman, Ron Fritz

Activities

- Download SKIP coloring page at www.billygorilly.com/coloring.html
- **Play...Puppy Dog Puppy Dog.** Have the kids sit in a circle. Teach them the poem found in this resource kit. Have fun as the children recite their part.

Care Of A Pet Dog

- Dogs need plenty of fresh drinking water.
- Brushing your dog daily helps keep your dogs' coat healthy.
- Dogs love to take walks. Remember that it is always important to clean up after your dog when you're on a walk and it goes to the bathroom.
- Dogs love to play and do tricks if you train them.
- Dogs need lots of love.
- Never leave your dog in the car on a hot day.

Did You Know?

That there is a breed of dog called a Labradoodle. These dogs are friendly and non aggressive. Their intelligence and high trainability make them well suited for guide dogs, therapy dogs, and other assistance dogs. They have soft curly wool like fur. Their non-allergic coats make them popular among people who have not been able to enjoy pets because of their allergies.



Puppy Dog Puppy Dog

ALL: Puppy Dog, Puppy Dog
What's my clue
Just what kind of dog are you?

LEADER: My face is squished just like a bug
Because I'm what they call a Pug


Repeat "ALL" verse after each "LEADER" verse

LEADER: I like to play and I couldn't be merrier
Don't you know that I'm a Terrier

LEADER: My ears are long and my name is Daniel
You know me, I'm a Cocker Spaniel

LEADER: I'm so big I take up the whole yard
Because I am a Saint Bernard

LEADER: My fur curls like a macaroni noodle
Because I am a Labradoodle




LEADER: I keep sheep safe, oh by golly
Because I am a Border Collie

LEADER: I can change what's lost to found
I'm the dog they call a Hound

LEADER: My face is wrinkled and I can't jog
Because I'm just a big Bulldog

LEADER: I'm mixed together and you don't know what
To call me, so I'm just a Mut

ALL: Puppy Dog, Puppy Dog
It's so true
Whatever kind you are,
I LOVE YOU!



THE FOX AND THE GRAPES

Song Track: 9

Description: This song is based on an Aesop's fable "THE FOX AND THE GRAPES". Hear the music underscore the intensity of the fox jumping for the grapes.

Possible Story Time Themes:

- ❖ Dealing with disappointment and frustration.
- ❖ Can't always get what you want.
- ❖ Keeping a positive attitude.



Do you want to be Sweet or Sour

Materials Needed

- Grapes (real or plastic)
- Lemons (real or plastic)

How To Play: Briefly explain that there's always a sweet way (hold up the grapes/have everyone make a big smile) or a sour way (hold up the lemons/have everyone make a sour face) to act.

Describe each situation and the possible responses. Have the children make the face that matches each response. At the end of the game explain to the children that if they choose the sweet way, they will have a happier life.

It's time to wake up and go to school, but you don't feel like it. You could:

"Cry and Kick and Scream!"
Or
Think about having fun learning new things

You can't find your shoes. You could:

"Cry and Kick and Scream!"
Or
Search in all the places they might be

You're at the store with your mom. You see a toy you'd like to have, but Mom says no. You could:

"Cry and Kick and Scream!"
Or
Picture yourself at home with your favorite toy

Your soccer team just lost the game. You could:

"Cry and Kick and Scream!"
Or
Look forward to playing even harder next time

You're at your piano lesson. You can't seem to play your song just right. You could:

"Cry and Kick and Scream!"
Or
Play it again and try to make it better

It's time for dinner. You want something different than what you're having. You could:

"Cry and Kick and Scream!"
Or
Be thankful for the good food made by some one who loves you

It's time for bed, but you want to stay up and play. You could:

"Cry and Kick and Scream!"
Or
Lie down, think about all the people who love you, fall asleep, and have happy sweet dreams

Start the music and get ready to move. Have the children stand next to each other in a line. Turn the music on. As the kids dance to the music, have them listen for Billy Gorilly to say, "jump jump jump" or try try tried". When they hear him have them reach up into the air and jump up as high as they can. **This is a good exercise to encourage movement, listening, and following directions.**

Fox & Grapes Coloring page at
www.billygorilly.com/coloring.html

Fox & Grapes Word Scramble at
Found in this resource kit.

Billy Gorilly's

Happy or Sad Word Scramble

See if you can unscramble the words below.

pyaph _ _ _ _ _

ycr _ _ _

yoj _ _ _

wnorf _ _ _ _ _

ith _ _ _

ads _ _ _

dma _ _ _

lesmi _ _ _ _ _

adgl _ _ _ _



Word List:

happy glad cry sad smile frown joy hit mad

WHO WILL BELL THE CAT?

Song Track: 10

Description: The diva Betty Bat, along with the help of the singing mice, tell this Aesop's fable in their own unique way. The dialog before the song has the entire Candy Appletree Family trying to keep Betty Bat focused on what she needs to do.

Possible Story Time Themes:

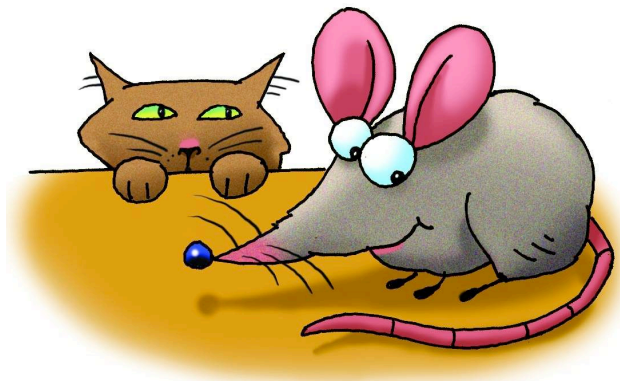
- ❖ Thinking things through
- ❖ Heros

Things You Can Discuss

Take this time to discuss good and bad plans.

Is it good to cross the road without looking for cars first?

Should you do something just because your friend asks you to, even if you think it is wrong?



Talk to the children about the value of thinking things through.

When you have decisions to make think—Is it going to cause me harm? Is it going to cause someone else harm? Is it mean? Will it help someone? If I do this what will the outcome be? Can I live with the consequences?

Activities: Pass out small jingle bells (approx. 2.5in. diameter). The kind you can get at craft stores. Have the children ring their bells every time the song says "WHO WILL BELL THE CAT".

Thinking and Listening: Have the children stand in a circle while holding their bell. Give each child a number. When the instructor calls out their number the child should ring their bell.

Book Suggestion: Teaching With Aesop's Fables by Theda Detlor (Scholastic)

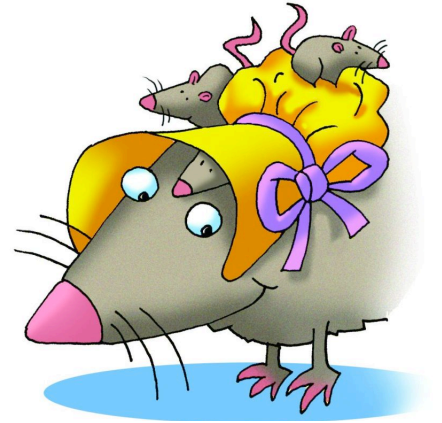
MRS. OPOSSUM

Song Track: 11

Description: Performed by the nerdy Owlton W. Hootley, this song is adorable. It teaches children many different facts about opossums in a lighthearted entertaining way.

Possible Story Time Themes:

- ❖ Opossums
- ❖ Animals
- ❖ Learning about marsupials (female mammal with a pouch).
- ❖ Animals that are helpful to the environment.



Activity Pages

Mrs. Opossum coloring page
Download at
www.billygorilly.com/coloring.html
Mrs. Opossum's maze
found in this resource kit.

Ten Facts About Opossums

1. Snails, slugs, cockroaches, rats, mice, dog food, cat food, and leaves are all tasty treats for opossums.
2. The babies are walking and ready to leave the pouch in four months.
3. They like to sleep during the day.
4. They have good night vision.
5. Roam around looking for food at night.
6. They live under and in trees.
7. Opossums do not hang by their tail.
8. Young opossum's are called *Joey's*
9. Can have up to thirteen babies; usually have five to eight babies.
10. Opossums lie down on the ground and play dead when they are threatened.

Did You Know?

That opossums are good for the environment; it's true. They help keep disease-causing rodents and many problematic bugs like cockroaches under control by eating them. Opossums are not aggressive. If they come to your yard don't be worried they usually leave in a couple of days.

Tips and Resources

Suggested Books:

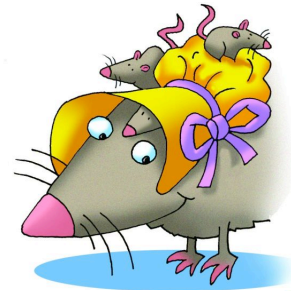
- ❖ **Possum Come A-Knockin' (Dragonfly Books)** by Nancy Van Laan, George Booth
- ❖ **Don't Laugh, Joe! (Picture Puffin Books)** by Keiko Kasza

Sources of opossum information on the web:

- ❖ The National Opossum Society at www.opossum.org
- ❖ Opossum Society of the United States at www.opossumsocietyus.org

Let's Play...

Opossum Rescue



Materials Needed

- Two brown paper lunch bags
- Two brown paper shopping bags
- Two sheets of "Opossum Rescue" game pieces.
- Two "Opossum Rescue" candy apple tree pictures

Prepare In Advanced

- Cut out game pieces
- Paste one candy apple tree picture on each shopping bag.

Directions

1. Explain the dangers of being an opossum (having to be careful around cars, water, dogs, etc.).
2. Have the children make two teams. Each team with a player to hold the pouch (lunch bag) and the rest of the team as rescuers.
3. Place the game pieces in two piles at one end of the room and the two candy apple tree shopping bags at the other.
4. Play the song "Mrs. Opossum".
5. When the music starts, the first rescuer on each team picks up a game piece and drops it into the pouch being held by their teammate.
6. The child holding the pouch walks quickly to the candy apple tree and empties the pouch into the shopping bag, before going back to tag the next rescuer.
7. The next rescuer picks up another game piece to start another rescue.
8. When the song ends, see how many opossums each team has rescued.

Opossum Rescue

Game Pieces

Print game pieces on heavyweight paper or laminate them. Cut game pieces apart on the solids lines.

Mrs. Opossum



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Mrs. Opossum



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Mrs. Opossum

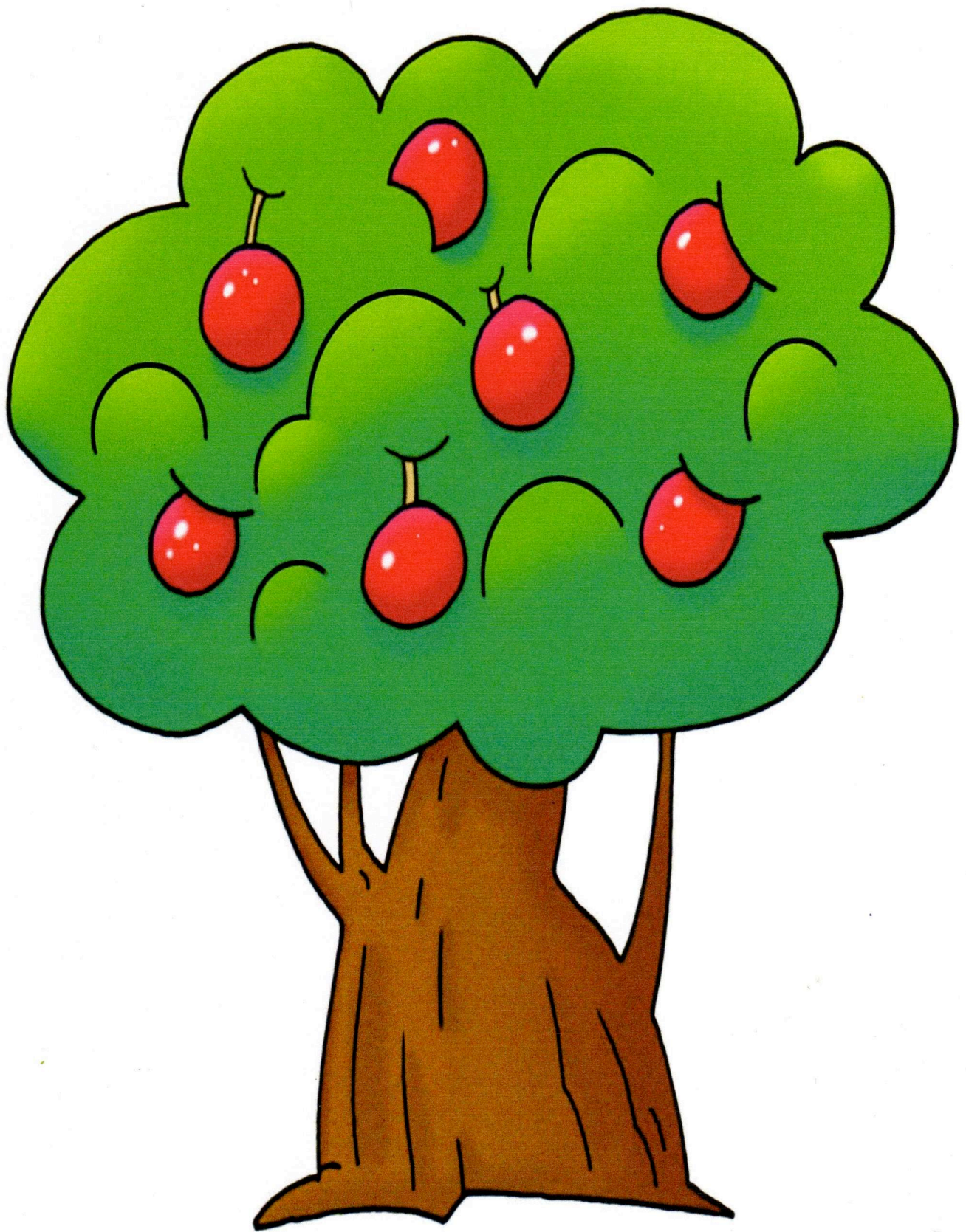


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Mrs. Opossum



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Opossum Rescue

Billy Gorilly is on his way to help Mrs. Opossum. Can you help him find his way through the maze? Billy will see his friends from the Candy Appletree Woods along the way. Using a pencil, draw a line as you find your way to Mrs. Opossum.



Start Here



Rainbow Zoo

Frog Bog



Mrs. Opossum
End Here



Candy Apple Dog Park



Candy Appletree Woods

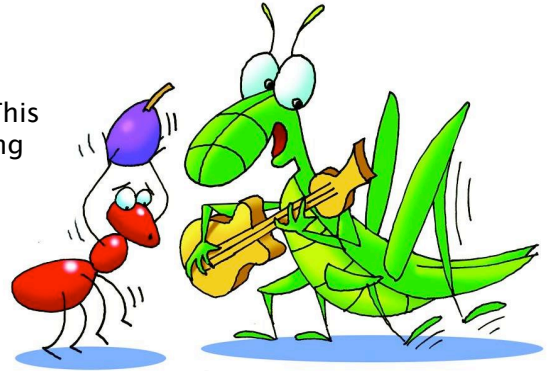
THE GRASSHOPPER AND THE ANT

Song Track: 12

Description: A song based on an Aesop's fable. This well-known story illustrates the advantages of putting work before play.

Possible Story Time Themes:

- ❖ Planning for the future
- ❖ Work before play/procrastination
- ❖ Time management



Activity Page

Download "GRASSHOPPER AND THE ANT" coloring page at:
www.billygorilly.com/coloring.html

Money Bags

Materials needed

- Plastic zipper bags.
- Download and print Billy Gorilly "Save a penny" stickers found in this resource kit. If you don't use sticker label paper, print on regular paper then cut out and use double sided tape to secure in place.

Directions: Have the children stick or tape the "Save a penny" saying onto their bag. The kids get to take home their own bank as they learn the value of saving.

Learning About The Calendar

Explain to the children that days, like people, have names.

Say, "Today's name is (Monday). Tomorrow's name is (Tuesday)." Show the kids the day's names at the top of the calendar. Help the children understand the passage of time and how we measure time by the months, days, and hours (say when the sun comes up-down-then up, it makes one day). Circle special days on the calendar and count how many days until each special day arrives. The special days can be any day that you pick, an event at the library, fieldtrip, or special holiday.

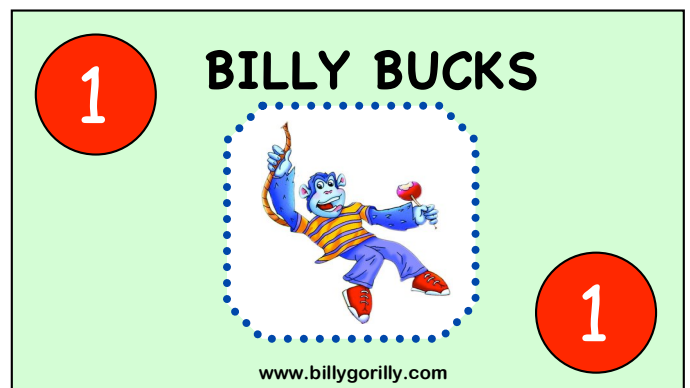
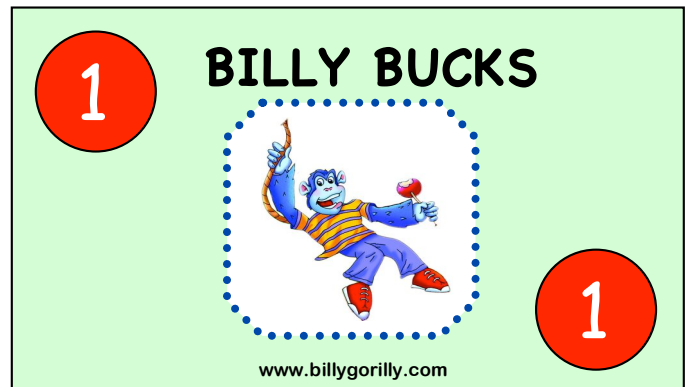
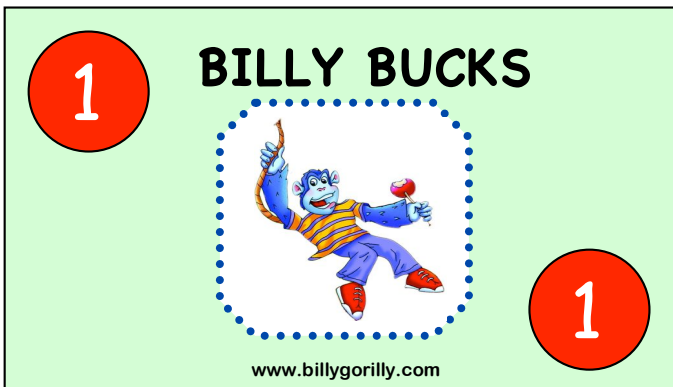
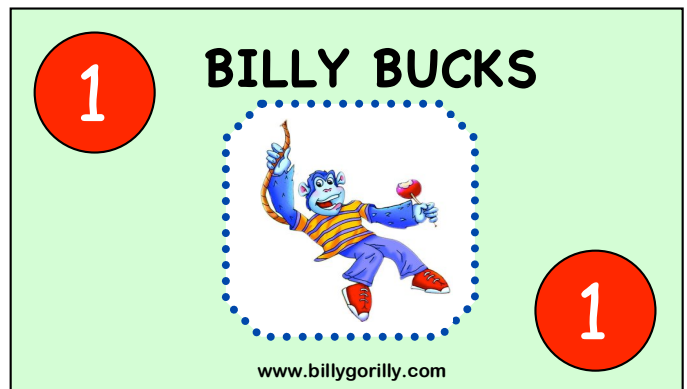
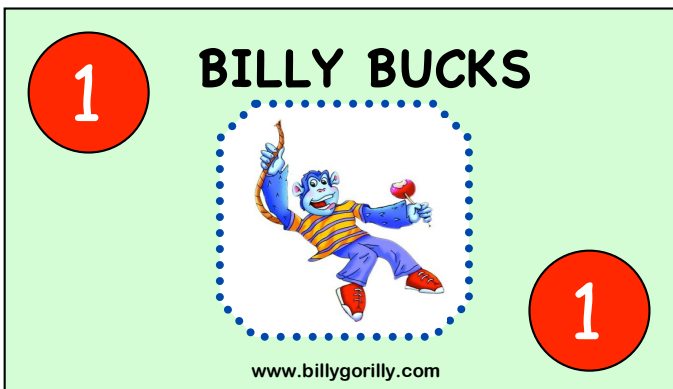
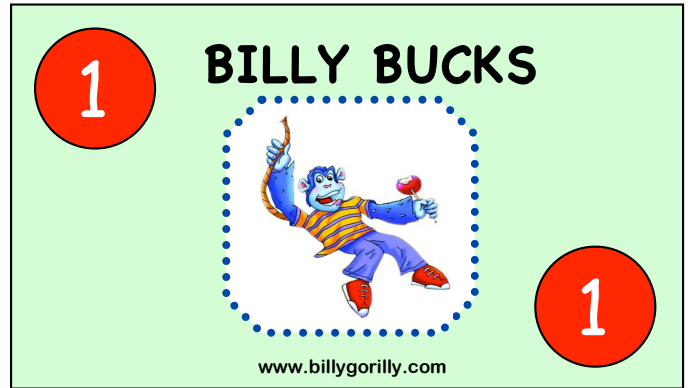
Tips and Resources: Talk about the value of saving money for a "rainy" day. Discuss the importance of work before play (making bed before going outside to play ball.) It's not too early to start teaching about planning.

The "Even Steven" Game

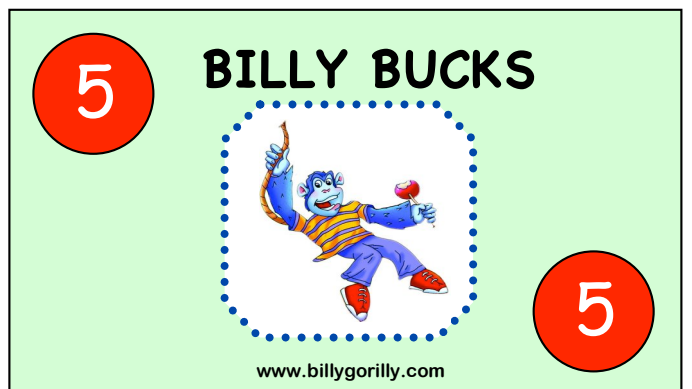
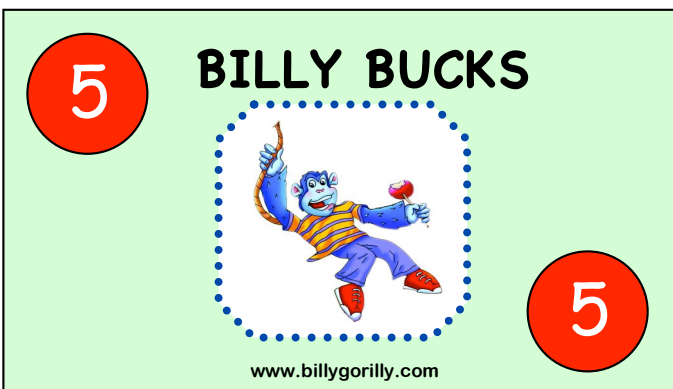
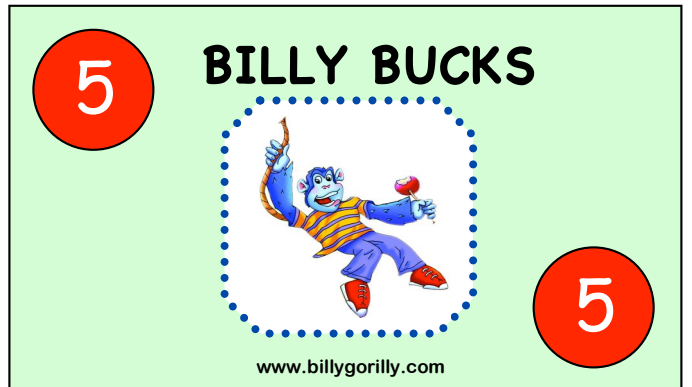
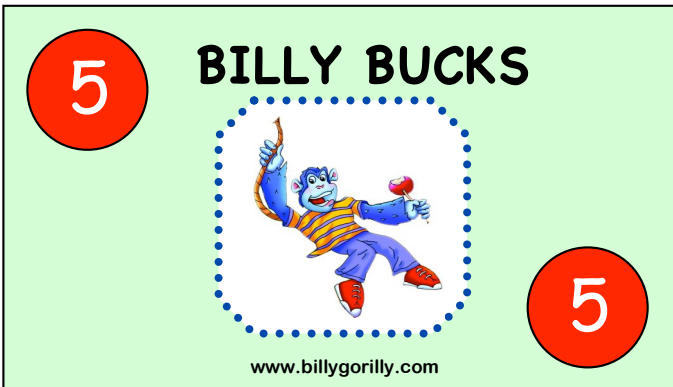
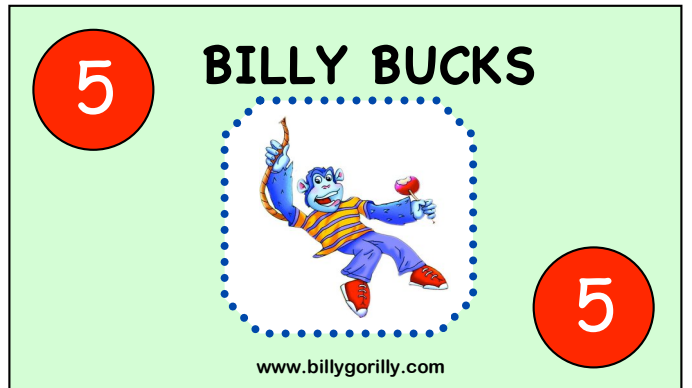
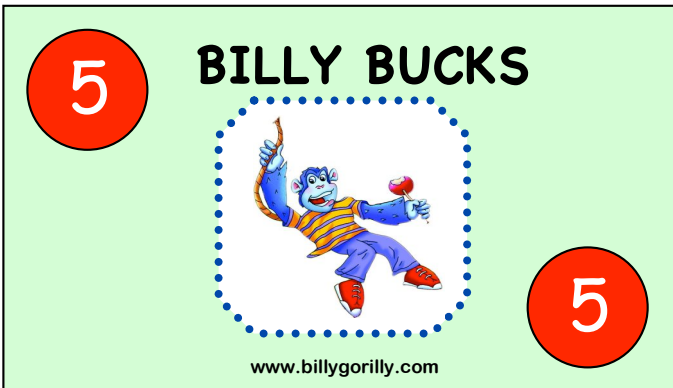
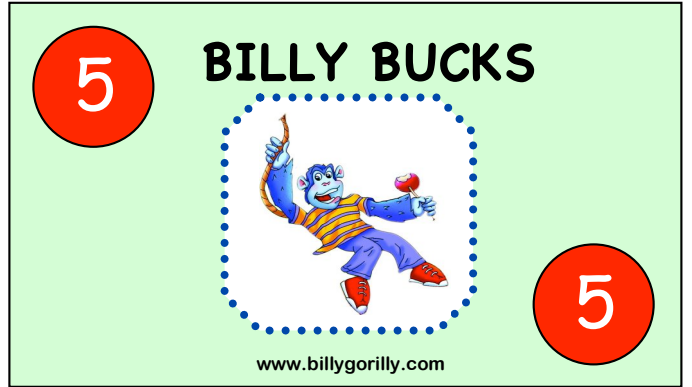
1. Pass out **five** "1" Billy Bucks, **three** "5" Billy Bucks, and **two** "10" Billy Bucks to each child, counting out loud as you go.
2. Choose two children at a time to exchange equal numbers and denominations of Billy Bucks, also counting out loud as they do.
3. When the exchange is completed, everyone calls out "Even Steven".
4. As a variation, have the exchange go in a circle between three children. The first child gives a certain amount of Billy Bucks to the second child, who gives the same amount to the third child, who gives the same amount to the first child. Each transaction is counted out loud as it happens.
5. When the process is completed full circle back to the first child, everyone calls out "Even Steven".

Print out the "BILLY BUCKS" found in this resource kit

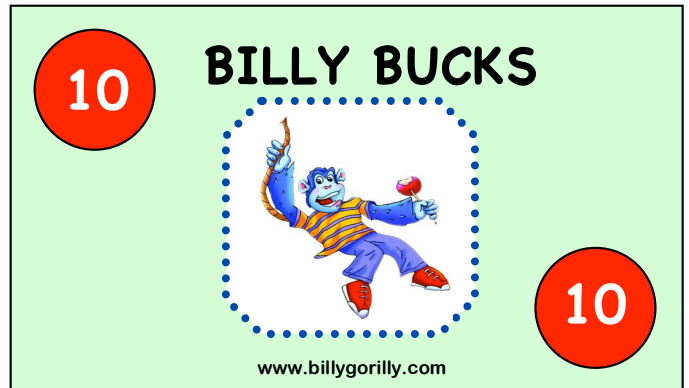
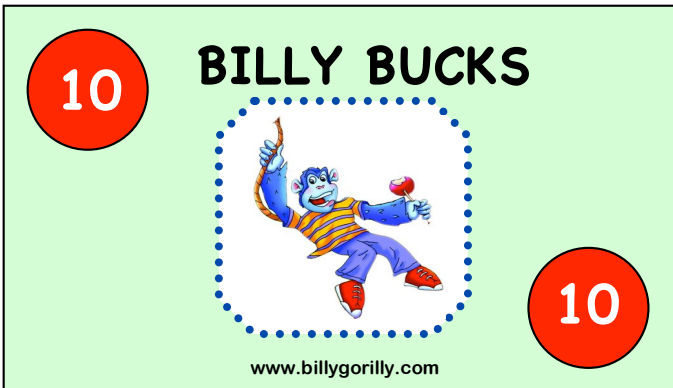
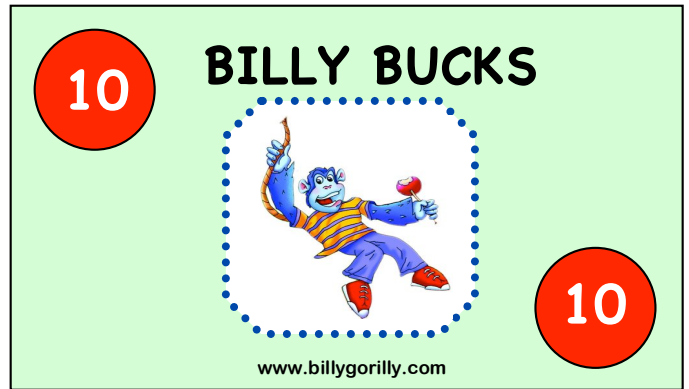
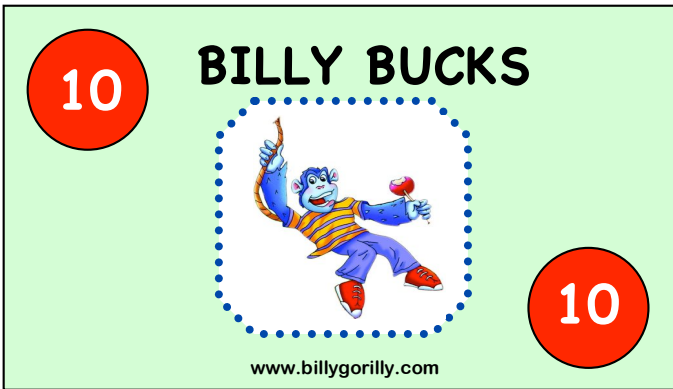
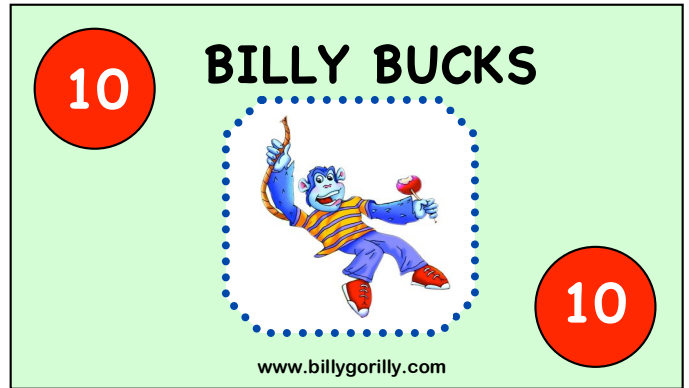
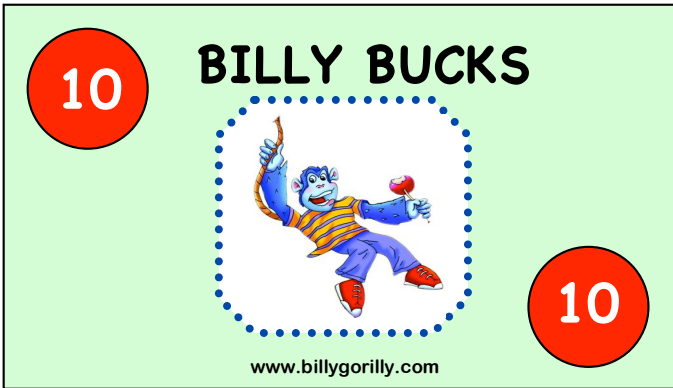
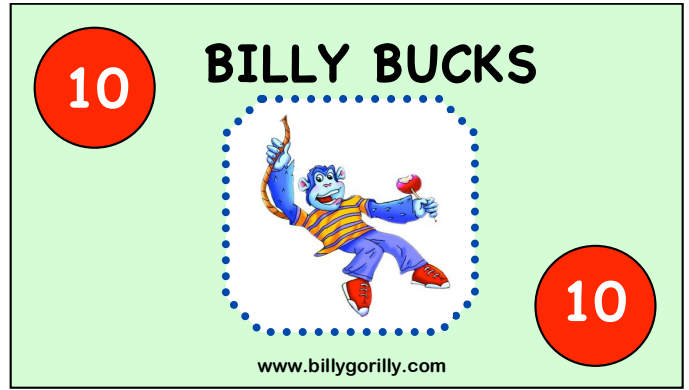
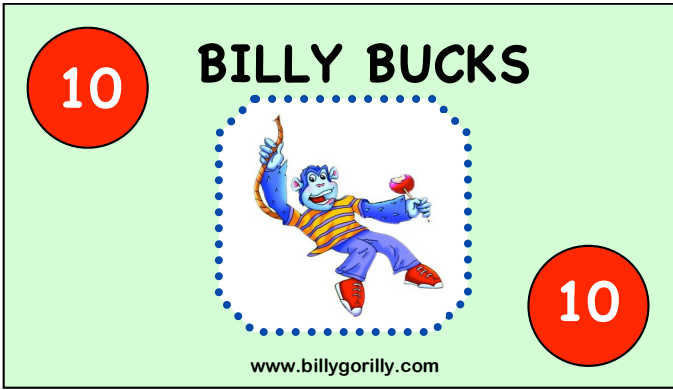
Learn about counting money with Billy Gorilly's "Billy Bucks".
Print and cut the play money. Use these bills to play
"The Even Steven Game".



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Save a penny
Earn a penny
10 pennies equals a dime
25 pennies equals a quarter
100 pennies equals a dollar
How many pennies can you
Save?



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BIRDS

Song Track: 13

Description: When your story time subject is birds, let the wild and crazy Pablo Parrot sing this song about his fine, feathered friends. The children will dance with delight as they learn about the diversity of birds.



Possible Story Time Themes:

- ❖ Learning about birds.
- ❖ Things that fly.
- ❖ Animals that lay eggs.

Lets Play... Passing The Feather

Items Needed:

- ❖ 2-6 large feathers.
- ❖ Box or empty trashcan.

How to Play:

Make two equal teams. Each team will form a line parallel to each other. Children will pass the feather to the other while holding it between their wrists. If the feather drops, the feather starts back at the beginning. When the feather gets to the last child they will drop it into the container. This can be the end of the game or the first child can get another feather and start again. It is usually good to use 2 or 3 feathers per team. The first team to get the feather into the container wins the game.

10 Facts About Birds

1. Ostriches stick their heads in the sand to look for water.
2. Penguins can jump as high as 6 feet in the air.
3. The pouch under a pelican's bill holds up to 25 pounds of fish and water.
4. The penguin is the only bird that can swim, but cannot fly.
5. A hummingbird weighs less than a penny.
6. Owls are one of the only birds that can see the color blue.
7. How many times can a woodpecker peck? 20 times a second.
8. The smallest bird is the Bee Hummingbird at 2.24 inches.
9. Parrots can talk.
10. When born, nest-building birds are blind, naked, and unable to walk.

Activities

- ❖ Have the children do their best bird imitation.
- ❖ Download a "BIRDS" coloring page at www.billygorilly.com/coloring.html

Help The Birds *Build Their Nest*

Materials Needed:

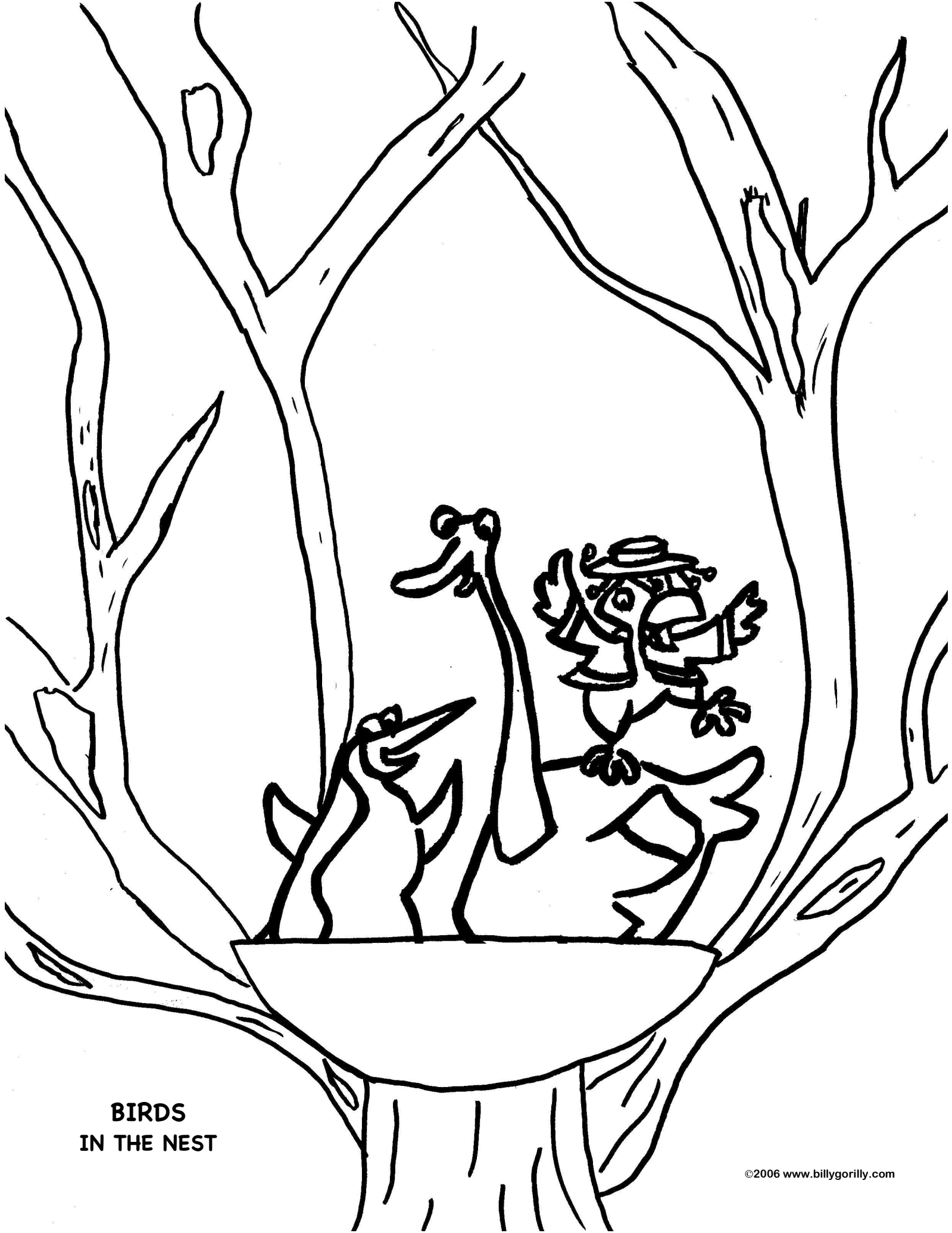
- Print out copies of the "Birds" in-the-nest coloring page for each child. You can find the coloring page in this resource kit.
- Straw-colored raffia cut into strands.
- Glue
- Crayons

Directions:

Have the children color the page. The next step is to glue the raffia onto the nest.

BOOK Suggestions:

A Big Beaked, Big Bellied Bird Named Bill (Pelican Publishing) by Greg Watkins
The Baby Beebee Bird (Harper Collins) by Diane Redfield Massie, Steven Kellogg



**BIRDS
IN THE NEST**

FLOWERS



Song Track: 14

Description: The title says it all. Betty Bat sings about one of her favorite things, FLOWERS.

Possible Story Time Themes:

- * Gardening
- * Nature
- * All about flowers

Teeny Tiny Flower Arrangement

Materials

- * 1 ½ – 2 inch. clay pot for each child.
- * Homemade play dough tinted green with food coloring. Use enough to fill each pot to the top. Best to make prior to craft.
- * Silk flowers with a stem. We used small bunches of 12 found in the wedding section of the craft store. We chose flowers that had 3 flowers, some berries, and leaves on each stem.
- * Paint to decorate pots (optional)

Directions

- * Paint or decorate as desired. Leave plain or make very fancy it is up to you.
- * Put play dough into the pot up to the rim.
- * Give each child 3 flower stems. Fold the wire stem to make it the right depth for your pot. Stick flowers into the play dough to hold in place. The dough will harden in a day or two.

**This is a nice craft to do for
Mothers Day!**

**Print out the Betty Bat gift cards to go along
with the
“Teeny Tiny Flower Arrangements”**

Each page makes 2 cards.
Found in this resource kit.

Flower Tinting

This is a good activity to show your child how plants drink water through their stalks and where the water goes.

Materials

- Clear glass or vase
- Water
- Food coloring
- White carnation or daisy

Directions: Fill a clear glass or vase halfway with water and add enough food coloring to tint the water a bright color. Add a white carnation or daisy and watch the flower change color over the next few hours. You can also do this experiment with celery.

Grow Plants

Children are fascinated when they see plants grow from seeds or cuttings.

Materials

- Seeds
- Shallow dish of water
- Planters (can use paper cups, poke a few holes in the bottom for drainage.)
- Potting soil

Directions: Soak seeds from an orange, apple, grapefruit, lemon, or lime in water for a day or two. Fill several planters with potting soil and place three or four seeds in each one about half an inch deep. Water the seeds, place the pots in a sunny spot, and watch for the green shoots to grow.

Download “BETTY BAT” coloring page at:
www.billygorilly.com/coloring.html

*Betty Bat
wishes you a very
Happy Day!*



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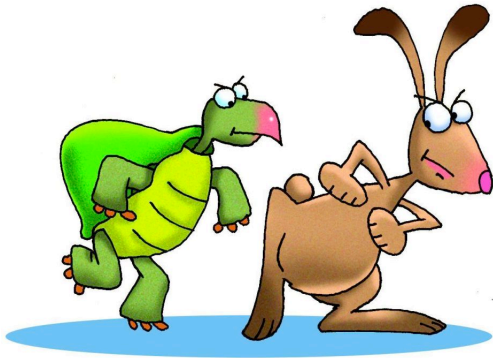
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THE RABBIT AND THE TURTLE



Song Track: 15

Description: Aesop's classic tale of the tortoise and the hare is told in a fresh new way by Billy Gorilly. Feel the excitement of the competition as the music takes you through the race. This is a wonderful way to teach the importance of persistence.

Possible Story Time Themes:

- ❖ Slow and steady wins the race
- ❖ Not being over confident
- ❖ Persistence

Let's go to the Cotton Ball Races

Materials Needed

- Brown paper shopping bags
- Cotton balls
- Bendable straws

Prepare in Advance

- Set up two tables
- Tape shopping bags to hang off one end of each table
- Place a bowl of cotton balls at the other end of each table

1. Give each child a straw.
2. Have the children make two teams. Line up at the end of each table, next to the bowl of cotton balls.
3. Play the song "The Rabbit and the Turtle".
4. When the music starts, the first player on each team takes a cotton ball from the bowl, places it near the end of the table, and then uses the straw to blow it off the other end and into the bags.
5. As each cotton ball lands in the bag, the next player starts.
6. When the song ends, see how many cotton balls each team got across the finish line.

Fast and Slow

Children can learn the concepts of fast and slow while listening to the "Rabbit and the Turtle". When the music goes as fast as the rabbit, have the children run in place. When the music goes as slow as the turtle, have the children walk in place very slowly.

GET THROUGH THE MAZE

ACTIVITY PAGES

Help the rabbit and the turtle get through the maze on their way to the candy apple tree.

Two levels of difficulty are available to download at;
www.billygorilly.com/billygorilly_puzzles.html



A WALK IN THE WOODS

Song Track: 16

Description: A musical nature walk. **A WALK IN THE WOODS** is a fun lively song performed by the whole Candy Appletree Family. Everyone can sing along with this one. All you need to know is “La La La”.

Possible Story Time Themes:

- Woodland
- Discovering nature
- Environmental or recycling

After the children listen to the song ask them what they might see if they were in the woods.

Lyrics include—Creeks, Golden Mushrooms, Caves, Squirrels, Baby Birds, and Trees

Use the *Scent Clues* as you Follow Your Nose

Materials Needed

- One lemon
- One orange
- One half onion
- One bunch of fresh rosemary
- One bunch of fresh mint
- One jar of whole cloves
- Coffee beans
- Vanilla beans
- One cut rose

1. With the items out of sight from the children, explain that the things they’re about to smell are all plants they might find growing out on a nature walk
2. Have the children cover their eyes with their hands (no peeking)
3. Hold the various items one at a time under each of the children’s noses
4. Have them guess what the item is
5. Have the children open their eyes, as you give the answer
6. Possibly give some general information about any of the items that seem to be unfamiliar to the children.
7. After the last item, have the children stand up and take a slow deep breath to smell the fresh air.

Let’s all do

The La La Limbo

Materials Needed

- ½” diameter wooden dowel, 3–4 feet in length (limbo stick)

- Choose two of the children to be the “trees” that hold the limbo stick (Typically two of the taller children who are approximately the same height are best for this role)
- Have the rest of the children line up single file, placing their left hand on the shoulder of the child in front of them, and their right hand waving in the air (similar to a conga line)
- Tell the “trees” to hold the limbo stick with an open palm as high as possible
- Play the song “A Walk in the Woods”
When the music starts, have the line of children go under the stick
- When the last child in line goes under the stick, have the line circle back to go again, with the “trees” holding the stick slightly lower
- Continue all the while the music plays, encouraging the children to sing along with the “La La La’s”
- Find out how low they can limbo