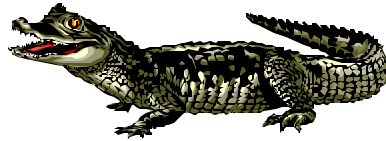


Theme of the Day:
Follow

Day 4 Group Time: Introducing the Book

What to Do:



Review the activities of previous day.

Ask the children what they did on the previous day. What kind of vegetables did they put in their soup. Show the art prints, encourage the children to tell what they used to make them. Ask the children if they enjoyed preparing and eating “alligator bait salad”. Sing the song, *Apples and Bananas* (Jean Feldman)



Read and Discuss the Story

Read the story. Encourage the children to say “Uh, OH!” or “Hurray!” at the appropriate time.

Introduce the concept of the day-Follow

Show the pictures in the book of the alligator following the trail of food and the boy following the alligator. Why did the alligator follow the trail of food? Do you think the alligator knew the boy was following him? Can you follow me? Sing the *Follow Me* Song.

Follow Me Song (tune of *Mulberry Bush*)

This is the way I pat my head, pat my head, pat my head so early in the morning
This is the way I clap my hands, clap my hands, clap my hands, so early in the morning
(like an alligator)
This is the way I stomp my feet, stomp my feet, stomp my feet, so early in the morning

MATERIALS

- ~~1~~ Book, *There’s an Alligator Under My Bed*
- ~~1~~ Previous day’s artwork
- ~~1~~ *Apples and Bananas* song
- ~~1~~ *Follow Me* song
- ~~1~~ Drum
- ~~1~~ *Follow the Leader* song
- ~~4~~ buttons (2 of each color) for each child
- ~~1~~ Wide masking tape or balance beam

Introduce the Arts Activities



Music / Movement Center

What the children will do: Using musical instruments follow the leader creating patterns of music. Sing a song about following.

Following the leader, the leader, the leader.

We're following the leader what ever he/she may do.

Demonstrate making a rhythmic pattern using a drum. Beat the drum in a simple pattern such as two fast beats, then two slow beats. Ask the children if they can follow you and make the same pattern by clapping their hands. Tell the children that they will get to take turns being the leader in the music center today.



Art Center

What the children will do: Create patterns with various suggested media: stickers, cut outs, stamps, buttons, etc. Make a simple pattern using two different colored buttons such as red, blue, red, blue. Give each child the same color and number of buttons, ask them if they can follow your pattern. You will get to make and follow patterns in art center today.

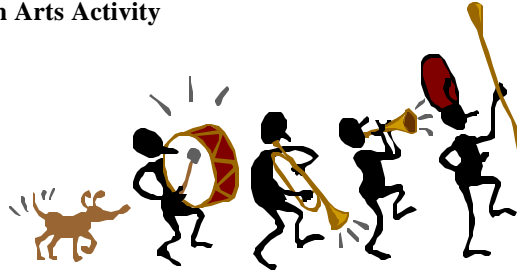


Make-Believe Center

What the children will do: Practice balancing on a low beam or tape placed on the floor. Place strips of wide masking tape on the floor to look like a balance beam. Demonstrate walking on the balance beam. Let the children practice walking and balancing on the beam. Today in the make-believe center you will get to pretend to be the boy walking on the board of his bed to avoid the alligator.

Theme of the Day:
Follow

Have Each Child Choose an Arts Activity



Day 4: Music and Movement Center

What to Do:

Relate the activity to the story. Remind the children that the alligator followed the trail of food to the garage and the boy followed the alligator. Today we will play a musical game following the leader.

Follow the leader. Sing the follow the leader song (refer to group activity). Allow children to take turns being the leader directing movements for the group to follow. Some children may need suggestions for actions to demonstrate. Here are some suggested actions for the children to follow: place finger tips on head, flap arms like a bird, clap hands, tap with foot, crawl, hop on one foot, jump, etc.

Make Rhythmic Patterns with Instruments. Let each child choose an instrument. Show how you can play a sound pattern, such as long/short, loud/quiet. Ask the children to follow your pattern with their instruments. After the children seem to understand let them take turns being the leader.

MATERIALS

- Follow Me* song
- Musical instruments