



Curriculum Guide

Fun Float Facts

An oversized bright red chair made of gigantic storybooks sits atop a floor of colorful alphabet blocks.

Loveable characters from children's literature bring the float to life with "Sam I Am" serving up his famous green eggs and ham, mischievous "Curious George" popping out of a book, "Thomas the Tank Engine" blowing a haze of smoke out of his stack and "Spot the Dog" cleverly spinning a ball on his nose.

- The floor is made of fifty-three enormous alphabet blocks.
- The Big Red Chair measures an amazing 10 feet wide and 14 feet tall!
- All of the storybook characters have a special surprise trait!

Big Red Chair



		Big Red Chair					Celebrate Detroit					Energy Innovators			It's a Michigan Thing				The Parade Company								
		Sam I Am Rhyming Game	I Can Read	Counting with Curious George	Telling Time with Thomas	Shapes with Spot	We Need YOU - Migration to Detroit	How did you get here - Migration to Detroit II	Cadillacqua	The Anna Scripps Whitcomb Conservatory	Name that Landmark	Invention - Timeline	Name that Invention	Telegraph Station	Thank you Mr. Edison	Mackinac Bridge - Timeline	Citizen Involvement in Building the Mackinac Bridge	Caring for the Great Lakes	Fruity Maps	Save our Lighthouses!	Public Service Announcement	Float Creation	You're on a BIG head	WE NEED YOU	Parade Primary Documents 1	Citizen Involvement in the Parade	Parade Primary Documents 2
Math	Geometric shape, properties, and mathematical arguments					★															★						
	Location and spatial relationships																				★						
	Spatial reasoning and geometric modeling		★																		★						
	Transformation and symmetry												★								★						
	Problem solving involving measurement												★														
	Meaning, notation, place value, and comparisons		★		★																						
	Number relationships and meaning operations		★																								
	Techniques and formulas for measurement			★																							
	Units and systems of measurement			★																							
English Language Arts																											
Writing																											
	Genre	★				★	★								★	★			★	★				★			
	Process	★				★	★					★			★	★			★	★				★			
	Personal Style					★	★					★								★	★						
	Grammar & Usage					★	★					★			★	★			★	★							
	Spelling	★				★	★					★									★						
	Handwriting	★				★	★														★						
	Writing Attitude	★				★	★														★						
Reading																											
	Comprehension	★									★				★	★											
	Critical Standards														★	★											
	Informational Text		★												★	★											
	Word Recognition and Word Study	★	★												★	★											
	Reading Attitude	★	★																								
	Fluency	★	★																								
Speaking																											
	Conventions	★	★			★									★	★			★	★				★			
	Discourse	★	★			★									★	★			★	★				★			
Social Studies																											
	Values and Principles of American Democracy																		★								
	Living and Working Together					★	★	★	★	★	★			★	★		★				★		★	★			
	Michigan History					★	★	★	★	★	★			★	★		★				★		★	★	★		
	Role of Citizen in American Democracy													★	★			★					★	★			
	Identifying and Analyzing Public Issues													★	★			★					★	★			
	Persuasive Communication													★	★			★					★	★			
	Citizen Involvement													★	★	★		★					★	★			
	Inquiry																							★			
	Public Discourse and Decision Making							★																	★		
	The World in Spatial Terms															★	★	★	★								
	Places and Regions					★	★			★				★	★	★	★	★									
	Human Systems					★	★							★	★	★	★	★									
	Environment and Society															★	★	★	★								
	Market Economy					★	★									★	★		★								
	National Economy					★	★									★	★										
	Use historical thinking to understand the past										★																
	Understand the effects of human-environment interactions										★																
	Purposes of Government						★																				
Science																											
	Inquiry process																★		★								
	Inquiry Analysis and Communication																★	★									
	Reflection and Social implications										★	★	★					★	★								
	Fluid Earth																★										
	Earth Systems														★	★	★	★									
	Heredity																		★								
	Evolution																										
	Ecosystems														★	★			★								
	Energy											★	★														
	Science Processes											★	★														
	Inquiry Process								★																		
	Reflection and Social Implication								★																		
	Organization of Living Things								★										★								

* If the class is required to complete their floats on a topic being explored in social studies the lesson would integrate into those glee's in countless ways.
 ** Michigan or United States History (dependent on the figures)

Dear Educator,

Thank you for considering a field trip with The Parade Company. We have worked extensively with Eastern Michigan University's College of Education to design lessons and classroom extensions that align with the Michigan Department of Education's Core Curriculum framework. Within this book you will find activities that you can utilize before or after your field trip that will focus students on important components of the "Big Red Chair" float. You will also discover lesson extensions that meet the GLCEs, as well as references and resources you can use in your classroom. If we can be of any further assistance as you plan your trip to the Parade Company, please don't hesitate to contact us!



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Education First





Big Red Chair

Grade Level: Preschool – First Grade
Sam I Am Rhyming Game!

Description

Children will play a matching game of rhyming words.

Procedure

1. After reading *Green Eggs and Ham* by Dr. Seuss ask the students what words in the story rhyme. (Sam/Ham, House/Mouse, Box/Fox).
2. Ask each child to share two words that rhyme with the class.
3. Inform them that they will be playing a Sam I Am Go Fish Rhyming Game.
4. Assign or have students find a partner.
5. Provide each set of partners with a set of rhyming cards and instruct children to turn them upside down and mix them up.
6. Provide instructions on making matches. For instance if a child picks up “box” and “hat” that would not be a rhyme and they would need to turn the cards back over. If the cards are “box” and “fox” they have made a rhyming match and can keep those cards.
7. Continue playing until there are no cards left.

Time Frame

One lesson

Learning Objectives

Students will recognize rhyming words.

Supplies

A set of Rhyming Cards (see [appendix](#)) for each child or for pairs of children.

Michigan Content Standards and Benchmarks Alignment

English Language Arts

Reading

- ☐ Word Recognition and Word Study
- ☐ Reading Attitude

Speaking

- ☐ Conventions
- ☐ Discourse

Big Red Chair

Grade Level: Preschool – First Grade
I Can READ!

Time Frame

Two - four lessons

Learning Objectives

1. Explore and observe all the places people can read.
2. Apply knowledge of where people read into narrative.
3. Produce a book on the many places people can read.

Supplies

A digital or disposable camera, location props (i.e. sunglass, a hat and a beach ball for the pool), construction paper, access to a laminating machine or clear contact paper.

Description

Children will create a book about all the places they can read!

Procedure

1. After the previous activity, ask the class to generate a list of places where they could read the book Green Eggs and Ham.
2. On the board write down all of their ideas.
3. Share with the class that they will be creating a book about all the places they can read this book and that they will be modeling it after the book Green Eggs and Ham with rhymes.
4. Provide them with the example: "I can read on the floor. I can read in by a door".
5. Show children the props that they can use and have them generate their rhymes.
6. Take pictures of each child reading Green Eggs and Ham at their rhyming location.
7. Make copies of the pictures and paste them on construction paper with the child's rhyme printed underneath the pictures.
8. Add a cover and a title page and bind the book together.
9. Read it out loud to children and allow them to take turns taking it home and sharing it with their families.

Michigan Content Standards and Benchmarks Alignment

English Language Arts

Reading

- ☐ Word Recognition and Word Study
- ☐ Fluency
- ☐ Informational Text
- ☐ Comprehension
- ☐ Reading Attitude

Writing

- ☐ Genre
- ☐ Process
- ☐ Spelling
- ☐ Handwriting
- ☐ Writing Attitude

Speaking

- ☐ Conventions
- ☐ Discourse





Big Red Chair

Grade Level: Preschool – First Grade
Counting with Curious George

Description

Read *Curious George at the Parade*, by H.A. Rey where Curious George goes to the big holiday parade. Children will count, sequence and group numbers by 2's. They can replicate and create their own patterns utilizing the objects from the story, *Curious George at the Parade*.

Procedure

1. Make enough copies of the objects found in the appendix so that each student may have one set from 1 – 30 in a small group or workshop setting.
2. Color, number from 1 – 30, laminate and cut out the objects.
3. Provide each student with a set and ask them to place the objects into sequence from 1 – 30.
4. Assist any students who may need extra help.
5. Ask students if a number is "more than", or "less than" another number.
6. Ask students to then group the objects into groups of 2's, then 3's, then 5's.
7. Aid any child that is having difficulty.
8. For children in grades higher than kindergarten, have them model addition and subtraction with the objects.
9. Create a pattern employing objects from the story. Ask children what comes next in the pattern.
10. Have children create their own patterns.

Time Frame

One lesson

Learning Objectives

1. Identify numbers 1 – 30.
2. Sequence numbers 1 – 30.
3. Group numbers from 1 – 30 into 2's, 3's and 5's.
4. Distinguish patterns.
5. Formulate patterns.

Supplies

Objects, from the book *Curious George at the Parade* (see [appendix](#)), markers, access to a laminating machine or clear contact paper.

Michigan Content Standards and Benchmarks Alignment

Math

- ☐ Meaning, notation, place value, and comparisons
- ☐ Number relationships and meaning operations
- ☐ Spatial reasoning and geometric modeling

Big Red Chair

Grade Level: Preschool – First Grade Telling Time with Thomas!

Description

As a train it is very important for Thomas to be right on time! Assist children in learning how to tell time through this kinesthetic activity in which they use their bodies to tell time.

Time Frame

One lesson

Learning Objectives

1. Identify 12, 3, 6, and 9 o'clock.
2. Distinguish the time that daily landmarks (i.e. lunch) occur.
3. Observe that each number on the clock represents five minutes.

Supplies

A large standard clock that is easy for the children to see.

Michigan Content Standards and Benchmarks Alignment

Math

- Techniques and formulas for measurement
- Units and systems of measurement

Procedure

1. Use the clock to explain to students the increments of time. Tell them the each number represents five minutes.
2. Have the students give times they have heard others say, such as "9 o'clock" or "12 o'clock." As a class, move the clock to the appropriate time. If possible have students move the hands themselves.
3. Share with students that they can easily remember the times themselves by using their arms. Demonstrate by using your arms to show them the 12, 3, 6, and 9 positions.
4. Have the students model the positions at the same time you are utilizing daily landmark times (lunchtime is 12 o'clock; bedtime is 8 o'clock).
5. As a drill, have the students one by one show different times.



Big Red Chair

Grade Level: Preschool – First Grade
Shapes with Spot!

Time Frame

One lesson

Learning Objectives

1. Identify shapes
2. Build a graph based on number of discovered shapes

Supplies

Large chart paper for graph divided into several sections and labeled with the different shapes.

Description

After reading Spot Goes to the Circus by Eric Hill, students will find different shapes around the classroom.

Procedure

1. Read Spot Goes to the Circus by Eric Hill.
2. After you have completed reading the book ask students to name the shapes they see on the cover of the book. Turn randomly to different pages of the story and again ask children to spot the shapes on each page.
3. Place the graph in a way that all the children can see it and it is possible to write on the graph.
4. Explain to the students how the graph is organized into different shapes, circles, triangles, squares, stars, diamonds, etc.
5. Invite the students to move around the classroom and find shapes in different objects. Inform them that once they have found a shape to share where they discovered it and what the shape is with you. Write the name of the object on the graph under the shape.
6. Once all the students have contributed count how many of each shape was discovered by the students and write the number at the bottom of the column.
7. Discuss which shape was found the most in the classroom and which was found the least.

Michigan Content Standards and Benchmarks Alignment

Math

- ☐ Meaning, notation, place value, and comparisons
- ☐ Geometric shape, properties, and mathematical arguments



Resources for The Big Red Chair

Green Eggs and Ham Resources

- Seussville – Distributed by Dr. Seuss properties, this colorful and fun website has facts, games and fun for kids, including the Green Eggs and Ham Picture Scramble!
www.seussville.com/lb/home.html
- American Egg Board will provide you with all the information you need on eggs.
www.aeb.org

Curious George

- National Educational Association provides a Curious George poster that you can download for free and worksheets with Curious George on them.
www.nea.org/readacross/curiousgeorge.html
- Curious George has his own website at Houghton Mifflin books
www.houghtonmifflinbooks.com/features/cgsite
- PBS provides many reproducible activities based on Curious George and offers a great family activity book that parents can download.
pbskids.org/curiousgeorge/parentsteachers/activities/disc_guide.html#fab

Thomas the Tank Engine

- Find free games, activities and videos of Thomas and his friend at this website.
www.thomasandfriends.com/usa

Spot

- Find free games, activities and videos of Spot. This website also has a downloadable teachers' page that is filled with activities. www.funwithspot.com



Sam

Ham

House

Mouse

Box

Fox

Cat

Hat

Dog

Frog

Boat

Goat

Truck

Duck

Car

Star

Tree

Bee







