

Circle Time Lessons & Centers

Unit
overview

Day 1 The Three Little Pigs

Introduce the fairy tale:

The Three Little Pigs

Read the fairy tale. Draw a picture using the journaling pages.

The Three Little Pigs
Fairy Tale

Objective: The students will interact and participate in story time.

Activities:

- Print, laminate, and cut apart the story. Use the pictures to make foam board pieces or pocket chart pieces. Read the story to the students using the visuals.
- Bring in real items, straw, sticks and a brick for students to investigate.
- Ask the students who they think is the antagonist of the story.

Extension Idea: Print the journal sheets. Students draw and write a scene to write and draw a picture.

Day 2 Story Retelling

Use the story cards to retell the fairy tale.

The Three Little Pigs
Story Retelling

Objective: Remembering the events of a story is a key to understanding. Story retelling develops sequencing skills, builds comprehension, helps memory, and engages students.

Activities: Students will retell a story, including characters and story events. They will retell the story using story cards. Pass out one card to each student. Students will assume the role of the character and act out the part printed on their card. Be sure to use the story as you read to allow active participation, such as loud huffing and puffing or the houses falling down. Finally, you can set up an interactive bulletin board for the story during center or independent work.

Day 3 STEM Challenge!

Build a little pig house using simple classroom materials. Will the big bad wolf blow the house down?

The Three Little Pigs
STEM Challenge

Objectives:

- The students will build a construction to represent something.
- The students will engage in elaborate and sustained role play.

Activities:

- Review the original story. Which material was the strongest? How do you know? (don't fall apart)
- Gather supplies such as straws, paper strips, pencils, tape, paper plates, etc. You may also use waste materials such as macaroni, gum drops, pretzels, etc. If you choose, allow students to build a house large enough to house a small plastic pig, hanging "I Am" signs around the room as students are working.
- When the houses are completed, use a hair dryer to try to "huff and puff" and blow the houses down. Discuss what worked and what could be changed. Have students draw a picture.

Remember to change chairs for materials before thoroughly checking for sharp objects.

Day 4 Story Variation

Write a new version of The Three Little Pigs using fun prop cards.

The Three Little Pigs
Story Variation

Objective: The Three Little Pigs story has been told many times over. In each version, there are slight changes that make the story unique. In today's activity, you will create a shared writing story with your students.

Activities: students will compare and make connections between stories. students will retell a story, including characters and story events.

Day 5 Beginning Sound Sort

Does it start with a P, like Pig or W, like Wolf? Sort pictures into two groups. Sing a fun song about pigs.

The Three Little Pigs
Beginning Sound Sort

Objective: Emergent readers need a lot of practice in connecting words and sounds. Using words from the story, students will practice identifying beginning sounds.

Activities:

- Print and laminate the P/W word sort cards. Cut cards apart and pass out one card to each student. Pose "P is for pig" and "W is for wolf" cards in the middle of the carpet.
- Call on students to show their card to the class and say the word aloud. Students will decide to which pile the card belongs.
- Sing the song "I'm a Pig".

Centers

Beginning Sound Clips
Literacy Center

Objective: Students will identify the beginning sound of words and sort them.

Procedure: Students say the words, pig, wolf, and wolf. Then they sort them into the matching pile.

Counting Pigs
Math Center

Objective: The students will count and write the number.

Procedure: Students will count and write the correct number.

The Three Little Pigs

Fairy Tale

Day 1
Lesson
Plans

A fairy tale is a story that begins with "Once upon a time" and ends with "They lived happily ever after." A fairy tale will also have an antagonist-- a character that works against the main characters.

Objective:

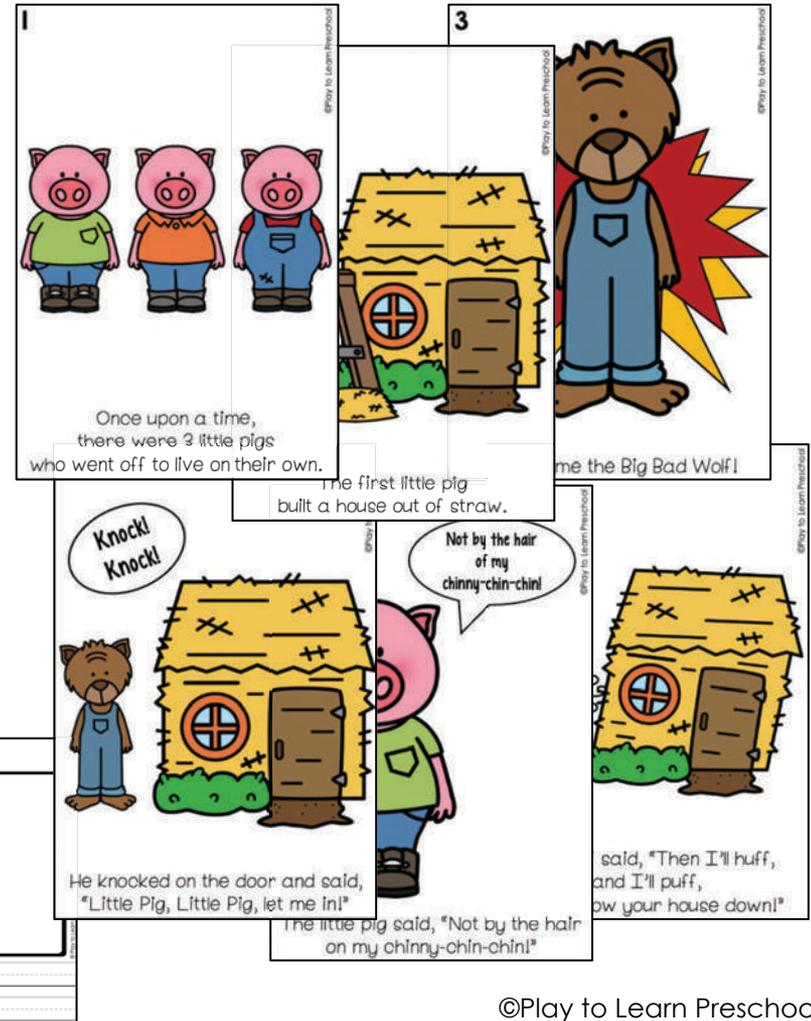
- The students will interact and participate in story time.

Activities:

- Print, laminate, and cut apart the story. Use the pictures to make flannel board pieces or pocket chart piece. Read the story to the students using the visuals.
- Bring in real items (straw, sticks and a brick) for students to investigate.
- Ask the students who they think is the antagonist of the story.

Extension Idea:

Print the journal sheets. Students can use the journal prompts to write and draw a picture.



Name _____
What would you do if the Big Bad Wolf knocked on your door?

Name _____
What material would you use to build your house?

The Three Little Pigs

Story Retelling

Day 2
lesson
plans

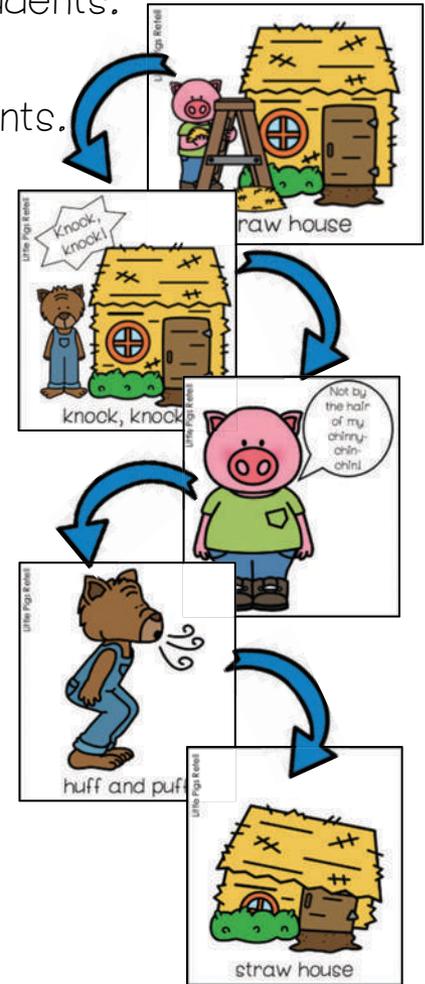
Remembering the events of a story is a key to understanding. Story retelling develops sequencing skills, builds comprehension, helps memory, and engages students.

Objective:

- The students will retell a story, including characters and story events.

Activities:

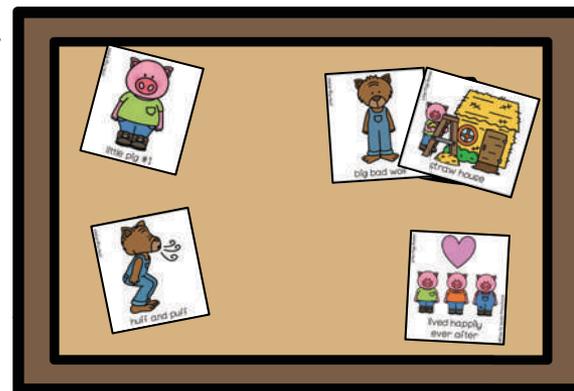
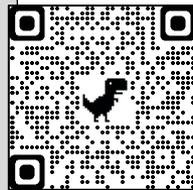
- Print, laminate, and cut out the story cards. Pass out one card to each student. Students will assume the role of the character or scene printed on their story card.
- Read the story to the class. As the story progresses, each student will act out the part printed on their card. Be sure to pause the story as you read to allow active participation, such as the wolf huffing and puffing or the houses falling down.
- Alternately, you can set up an interactive bulletin board for students to retell the story during center or independent work time using the attached story cards.



Extension Idea:

Set up your own stage for the students to perform the retelling. Create props, sets, and more. Check out the Play to Learn blog for more details.

<https://playtolearnpreschool.us/the-three-little-pigs/>



The Three Little Pigs

STEM Challenge

Day 3
lesson
plans

Young children are naturally curious, creative risk-takers. Nurture their natural instincts to question, build, and solve problems by building your own house that will withstand the wolf's huffs and puffs.

Objectives:

- The students will build a construction to represent something.
- The students will engage in elaborate and sustained role play.

Activities:

1. Review the original story. Which material was the strongest? How do you know?
2. Gather supplies such as straws, paper strips, pencils, tape, paper plates, etc. (You may also use edible materials such as marshmallows, gum drops, pretzel sticks, etc. if you choose.)
3. Allow students to build a house large enough to fit a small plastic toy pig. Hang up "I Am!" signs around the room as students are working.
4. When the houses are completed, use a hair dryer to try to "huff and puff" and blow the houses down. Discuss what worked and what could be changed. Have students draw a picture.

Remember to always check for allergies before introducing foods to your classroom.

I am designing!



I am building!



I am
problem solving!



The Three Little Pigs

We are studying fairy tales and have read The Three Little Pigs. In class, we are going to be building our own structures using classroom materials to withstand the huffs and puffs of a hair dryer!

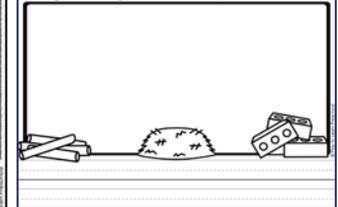


Please take some time this week to talk with us about what we might build. We will be building on _____.

At-Home Idea:

Send home the attached letter to families. Ask the students to discuss design ideas prior to building in class.

Name _____
How did your house do against the wind? Draw a picture.



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The Three Little Pigs

Story Variation

Day 4
lesson
plans

The Three Little Pigs story has been told many times over. In each version, there are slight changes that make the story unique. In today's activity, you will create a shared writing using variations in character, actions and endings.

Objectives:

- The students will compare and make connections between stories.
- The students will retell a story, including characters and story events.

Activities:

1. Gather a few renditions of the Three Little Pigs story from the library. Read aloud as a class. Complete a Venn diagram to highlight the similarities and differences among the stories.
 - Some of our favorite versions are:
 - "The Three Little Fish and the Big Bad Shark" by Ken Giest
 - "The Three Little Rigs" by David Gordon
 - "The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig" by Eugene Trivizas
2. Do a shared writing to create a class version of the Three Little Pigs story. Follow the attached template, having students pull cards from each pile to fill in the blanks. Story strips are also included if you choose to display in a pocket chart.

The Three Little

A Shared Writing Experience

Once upon a time, there were three little 

Each built a house. The first built a house 

The second built a house 

The third built a house out of 

Along came a big, bad 

It huffed and it puffed and the first two houses fell over. It huffed and it puffed, but the third house stayed standing. So the big, bad   and they all lived happily ever after!

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<https://playtolearnpreschool.us/best-three-little-pigs-books/>

The Three Little Pigs

Beginning Sound Sort

Day 5
lesson
plans

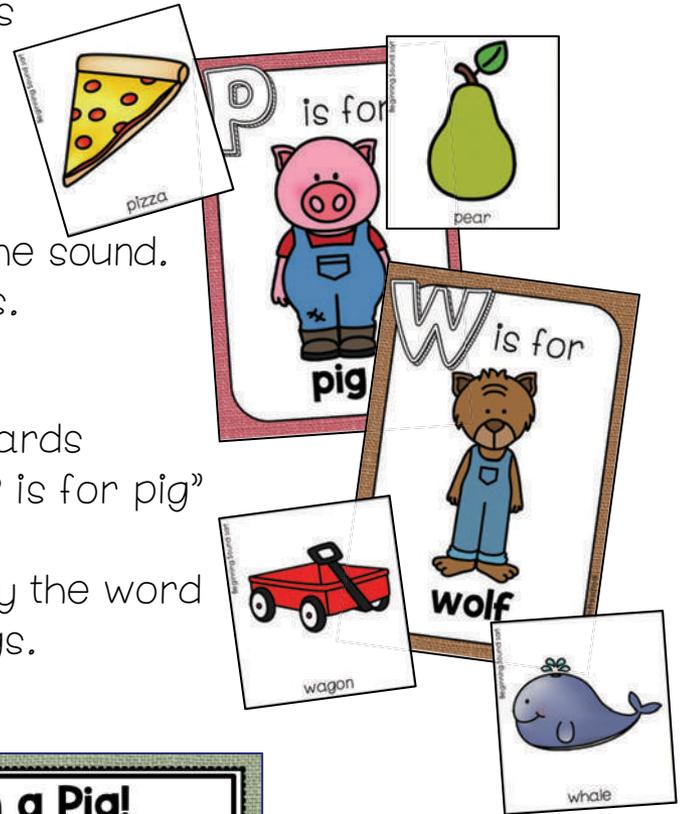
Emergent readers need a lot of practice connecting words and sounds. Using words from the story, students will practice identifying beginning sounds.

Objectives:

- The students will notice words that begin with the same sound.
- The students will play with words, sounds, and rhymes.

Activities:

1. Print and laminate the P/W word sort cards. Cut the cards apart and pass out one card to each student. Place "P is for pig" and "W is for wolf" cards in the middle of the carpet.
2. Call on students to show their card to the class and say the word aloud. Students will decide to which pile the card belongs.
3. Sing the song "I'm a Pig!"



Extension Idea:

Teach the ASL sign for pig. Put your hand under your chin and bend your fingers at the knuckles.



I'm a Pig!
To the tune of "I'm a Nut"

I'm a little bitty pig.
Building my house, strong and big!
The Big Bad Wolf can't blow it down
So he marches back to town.

I'm a pig! (oink, oink)
I'm a pig! (oink, oink)
I'm a pig! (oink, oink)
I'm a pig! (oink, oink)

OINK!

