

Circle Time Lessons & Centers

Unit Overview

Day 1 The Little Red Hen

Introduce the fairy tale:

The Little Red Hen

Read the fairy tale. Draw a picture using the journal page.

Day 2 Interactive Bulleting Board

Use the story cards to retell the fairy tale on a bulletin board.

Day 3 Carpet Game

Choose a number to find which character from the story is baking bread.

Day 4 S.T.E.M Activity

Use the recipe cards to make some delicious bread and creamy butter.

Day 5 Repeating Verses Song

Sing the song "Baking Bread." Use the picture cards for the different verses.

The Little Red Hen 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 or characters that work against the main characters.

Objectives:

- The students will interact and participate in story time.
- The students will understand the purpose of writing.

Activities:

- Print, laminate, and cut apart the story. Read the story to the students using the visuals.
- Use real items, like flour, wheat or oatmeal, seeds etc. to help students visualize the story.
- Engage in discussion questions. "Why didn't the other animals help the Little Red Hen?" "Who are the antagonists of this story?" "How do you help to make the bread?"

Extension Idea: Print the journal pages. Students can use the journal prompt to write and illustrate a picture.

The Little Red Hen Day 2 Lesson Plans

Interactive Bulletin Board

Retelling a story allows students to organize and describe events, which enhances comprehension. Interactive bulletin boards are a great way for young students to move, cooperate, and learn in a developmentally appropriate way.

Objectives:

- Students will retell a story, including characters and story events.
- Students will manipulate objects with their hands.

Steps:

- Print, laminate, and cut apart the story pieces.
- Use a string across your bulletin board with a pin for students to attach each piece.
- Using cotton swabs or pipe cleaners to the end of each piece.
- Young children can use a few of the story to tell the story.
- Use story pieces in a bin by the bulletin board.
- Put up the pieces in the order of what goes in the original story.

The Little Red Hen Day 3 Lesson Plans

Carpet Game

In our story, the dog, cat, and pig didn't want to help the Little Red Hen with any of her tasks. Teamwork and cooperation are important, yet difficult, skills to learn. This carpet game encourages students to work together to achieve a goal.

Objectives:

- The students will identify numbers.
- The students will share and take turns with others.

Activities:

- Review the original story. Why do you think the dog, cat, and pig didn't want to help the Little Red Hen with the work? What would you have done?
- Play the "Bake the Bread" carpet game. Encourage students to work together, take turns, and help each other to achieve the goal of finding who baked the bread.

Extension Idea: Tape the 100 chart to the bottom of the board. Students can use the board to practice counting by ones and tens.

To Play the Game:

- Print and laminate the board.
- Place the 100 chart on the board.
- Place a character under one of the numbers.
- Roll the dice and move the character to the number that is the sum of the two dice.
- Identify the number.

The Little Red Hen Day 4 Lesson Plans

STEM Activity

The Little Red Hen asked for help from her friends many times while she was making the bread. Today, help each other to make a delicious treat to share with your family.

Objectives:

- Students will follow oral directions.
- Students will share and take turns with others.

Steps:

- Use materials to make bread in a bag, butter in a jar (or both).
- Show which Little Red Hen's friends said when she first asks for help. How could you have helped her when she was making the bread?
- Use the recipe cards to make a yummy treat to share with your family.

Extension Idea: Print the recipe cards and use them to make a yummy treat to share with your family.

The Little Red Hen Day 5 Lesson Plans

Repeating Verses Song

Singing songs helps young children enhance creative language, develop vocabulary, and understand concepts of print. Incorporating movement, as in the Baking Bread song, encourages active listening and participation from students.

Objectives:

- The students will play with words, sounds, and rhymes.
- The students will share and take turns with others.

Activities:

- Print the song page and verse cards. Cut the verse cards apart to use during song. Sing the song while moving and acting out the underlined words. Repeat with new verses and actions.
- Take a poll "Do you think the Little Red Hen should have shared the bread?" Students use name cards or post-it notes to show their answer on a bar graph. Alternatively, they can make a circular graph by bringing up behind the different headings.

Extension Idea: Teach the ABCs for Bread. Students can use the ABCs to make a yummy treat to share with your family.

Centers

Patterning Math Center

Objective: The students will identify patterns.

Preparation: Print the pattern cards and place them on a table and cut apart.

Procedure: Students identify the pattern and arrange it by placing the next pattern piece.

Writing Practice Literacy Center

Objective: The students will write words.

Preparation: Print the words and place them in a basket for the students to use.

Procedure: Students use a dry erase marker to trace the words.

The Little Red Hen

Day 2
Lesson
Plans

Interactive Bulletin Board

Retelling a story allows students to organize and describe events, which enhances comprehension. Interactive bulletin boards are a great way for young students to move, cooperate, and learn in a developmentally appropriate way.

Objectives:

- The students will retell a story, including characters and story events.
- The students will manipulate objects with their hands.

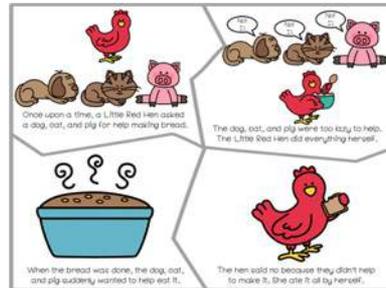
Activities:

1. Print, laminate, and cut apart the story pieces. Attach a string across your bulletin board with clothes pins for students to attach each piece. Alternatively, attach Velcro dots or magnets to the back of each piece.
2. For younger children, only use a few of the story cards to tell the story.
3. Put the story pieces in a bin by the bulletin board. Students put up the pieces in the order of what happened in the original story.



Extension Idea:

Print, laminate, and cut apart the story puzzle. Allow students to retell the story as they assemble the puzzle.



The Little Red Hen

Carpet Game

Day 3
Lesson
Plans

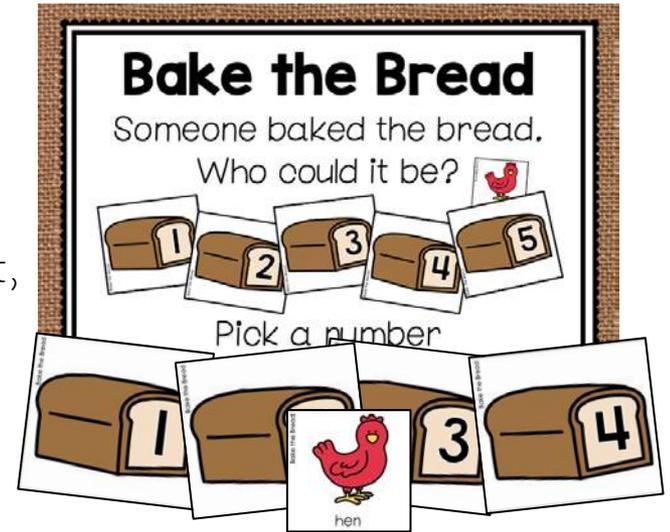
In our story, the dog, cat, and pig didn't want to help the Little Red Hen with any of her tasks. Teamwork and cooperation are important, yet difficult, skills to learn. This carpet game encourages students to work together to achieve a goal.

Objectives:

- The students will identify numbers.
- The students will share and take turns with others.

Activities:

1. Review the original story. Why do you think the dog, cat, and pig didn't want to help the Little Red Hen until the end? What would you have done?
2. Play the "Bake the Bread" carpet game. Encourage students to work together, take turns, and help each other to achieve the goal of finding who baked the bread.



To Play the Game:

- Line up the pictures of the loaves of bread. (Numbers 1-20 are included. Pick the right number of cards for your students.) Identify the numbers together.
- Hide a character under one of the loaves of bread and recite the poem to find it.
- Children guess where the character is hiding by identifying the number.

Extension Idea:

Teach the ASL sign for **hen/chicken**. Open your index finger and thumb together like a beak. Hold out other hand, palm side up. Bring your index finger and thumb towards your palm, like a bird pecking for grain.



The Little Red Hen

S.T.E.M. Activity

Day 4
lesson
plans

The Little Red Hen asked for help from her friends many times while she was making the bread. Today, help each other to make a delicious treat to share with friends and family.

Objectives:

- The students will follow oral directions.
- The students will share and take turns with others.

Activities:

1. Gather materials to make bread in a bag, butter in a jar, or both!
2. Review what Little Red Hen's friends said when she asked them for help. How could you have helped her when she was making the bread?
3. Follow the recipe cards to make a yummy class treat!

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



Extension Idea:

Have students reflect on their culinary creations using the attached journal pages.

Name _____ Today we helped to make fresh bread. What did you do to help make the bread?	Name _____ Butter is formed by churning, or shaking, cream. What did your cream look like as you were shaking it?
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<https://playtolearnpreschool.us/making-butter/>

The Little Red Hen

Repeating Verses Song

Day 5
lesson
plans

Singing songs helps young children enhance creative language, develop vocabulary, and understand concepts of print. Incorporating movement, as in the Baking Bread song, encourages active listening and participation from students.

Objectives:

- The students will play with words, sounds, and rhymes.
- The students will share and take turns with others.

Activities:

1. Print the song page and verse cards. Cut the verse cards apart to use during song. Sing the song while moving and acting out the underlined words. Repeat with new verses and actions.
2. Take a poll “Do you think the Little Red Hen should have shared the bread?” Students use name cards or post-it notes to show their answer on a bar graph. Alternatively, they can make a physical graph by lining up behind the different headings.

Extension Idea:

Teach the ASL sign for **bread**. Hold one hand open facing you. ‘Slice’ pieces of bread using opposite hand.



Do you think the Little Red Hen should have shared the bread?

Yes! 	No. 
Olive	Mikaela
Cal	Jared
Ben	Saanvi
Zeke	

Baking Bread

To the tune of “Where is Thumbkin”

Plant the wheat.
Plant the wheat.
We’re going to bake bread!
We’re going to bake bread!
It will taste so yummy.
Goin’ in my tummy.
Plant the wheat.
Plant the wheat.

