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Teacher's guide for Mother Goose – Age appropriate for PK-2nd grade

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Mother Goose

History:

"Mother Goose" according to the American version, was Elizabeth Foster Goose of Charleston and Boston. On July 5, 1692, when Elizabeth Foster was twenty-seven years old, she became the wife of Isaac Goose of Boston. Mr. Goose had been married before, and Elizabeth found herself a stepmother to ten children. She and Mr. Goose had six more children of their own, making a total of 16 children!

One of their daughters married and had six children. It is said that, like many grandmothers, Elizabeth Foster Goose searched her memory for rhymes that would "lull" the little ones. Whether true or not, it is a pleasant story!

Mother Goose rhymes have English and French origins.

About your performer:

Margaret Clauder has been performing as Mother Goose since 1993. She has performed before thousands and thousands of children in Texas and all over the U.S. She was a featured performer at the State Fair of Texas in the Children's Area in 2010, and has performed on stages across the U.S. Her show ties in with TEKS standards, introduction to poetry and heavily with language arts curriculum for PK – 2nd grade. Through the use of rhymes, poetry, ventriloquism, songs, comedy, and adorable puppets, Margaret will bring the Mother Goose character to life and right into the 21st century. Children will become engaged as they watch and listen to the way in which she presents the material in an age appropriate manner. For more information about Margaret, please visit her website at www.mcpshows.com. We also have photos and descriptions of other MCP programs available.

Pre-Program Activities

Discuss these vocabulary words with your students, on their level, prior to the performance.

Poem: a piece of writing that expresses the writer’s thoughts, feelings and imagination, arranged in lines and verses (rather than sentences and paragraphs). Poems have rhyme and rhythm, and are often meant to be heard because they appeal to the ear as much as to the eye.

Rhyme – words or lines having the same last sound.

Rhythm – a regular, repeated beat or accent.

Verse – a series of lines that “go together” to tell a thought in a poem (like sentences which “go together” to make a paragraph), and which are arranged in a rhythmic pattern.

English Language Arts EE’s: Reading (developing vocabulary)

Sounds Like

“Sounds like” is another way to say, “rhymes with.” Ask students to think of words that rhyme with the following words. “I’ll say it, you rhyme it”:

hat	sock	bead	bag
car	hook	top	juice
tie	time	pan	game
hot	head	pen	candy

(The student who rhymes the word could come up front and read the next word to be rhymed by a class member, or play the game in teams like Family Feud. Name three words that rhyme with...)

Mother Goose Day:

Think about allowing your lower grades to celebrate a Mother Goose Day. Ask children (and teachers) to dress up as their favorite rhymes. Costumes could be made as part of an art project such as crowns, clocks, or hats with a rhyme character on the top. We’ve seen schools really make this a HUGE fun day for the kindergarteners, a day that they always look forward to. A parade through the school halls to show off their costumes is also fun!

Books to tie in with the program:

There are a host of Mother Goose books available. For 3 unique selections, find:

Motor Goose by Rebecca Colby:

In this picture book, Mother Goose rhymes are reimagined with vehicles— trains, planes, trucks, and boats!

Mary had a little Jam by Bruce Lansky:

After the children learn the basic Mother Goose rhymes, this book is a pure joy for older children. Bruce Lansky re-writes the children’s classics using parody and pun to bring the rhymes into the 21st century. Old Mother Hubbard’s dog could not wait for supper so he ordered a pizza by phone. The old woman who lived in a shoe moved into a sandal in the summertime. Jack be nimble kept jumping much too close and now his pants smell like burnt toast! Children’s imaginations will burst forth after reading this book!

Texas Mother Goose by David Davis:

This work offers parodies of the traditional rhymes with a Texas twist. It is a great example of how a writer can take the basic rhymes a step further with imagination and a bit of Texas history.

HANDOUT

Finger Plays

Words and actions can go together!

Open them; shut them (hands)
Open them; shut them, (2 times) (follow actions as rhyme indicates)
Give a little clap.
Open them; shut them, (2 times)
Lay them in your lap.

Creep them, creep them,
Right up to your chin,
Open wide your little mouth,
But do not let them in!

Creep them, creep them,
Right up to your cheek.
Put them over your eye,
And through your fingers peek.

Open them; shut them, (2 times)
To your shoulders fly
And then like little birdies, flutter through the sky,
Falling, falling, almost to the ground.
Quickly pick them up and whirl them around and around.
Faster, faster, slower, slower.
Give them a little clap.
Put them in your lap.

Now you shake them, shake them
Give another clap.
Shake them, shake them,
Put them back in your lap.

English Language Arts EE's: Listening; Speaking

Rhymes included in the Mother Goose 45 minute program:

****Hickory Dickory Dock**

Hickory, dickory, dock
The mouse ran up the clock
The clock struck one
And down he'd run
Hickory, dickory, dock

Hickory, dickory, dock
The mouse ran up the clock
The clock struck two
The mouse went "Boo"
Hickory, dickory, dock

Hickory, dickory, dock
The mouse went up the clock
The clock struck three
The mouse said "Whee"
Hickory, dickory, dock

Hickory, dickory, dock
The mouse went up the clock
The clock went four
The mouse said "No more"
Hickory, dickory, dock

The itsy bitsy spider *

The itsy bitsy spider
Went up the water spout
Down came the rain and
Washed the spider out
Out came the sun and
And the itsy bitsy spider
Went up the spout again

* An Original rhyme of The Texas Tarantula is introduced as part of the way that children may invent their own rhymes.

** Some rhymes are performed as a pre-show portion for groups that arrive early to the presentation.

Old Mother Goose

Old Mother Goose, when
She wanted to wander
Would fly through the air
On a very fine gander.

Mary Had a Little Lamb

It's fleece was white as snow
And everywhere that Mary went
The lamb was sure to go.

It followed her to school one day.
Which was against the rule.
It made the children laugh and play
To see a lamb in school.

And so the teacher turned it out.
But still it lingered near
And waited patiently about
Till Mary did appear

Why does the lamb love Mary so?
The eager children cry.
Why, Mary loves the lamb, you know,
The teacher did reply.

***Texas Tarantula (written by Margaret Clauder)**

The Texas Tarantula went up the water spout
In came a hurricane and blew the spider out
Out came the sun and dried the hurricane
And the Texas tarantula went up the spout again!

Little Miss Muffet (audience volunteer used to dress up and act out rhyme)

Little Miss Muffet
Sat on a tuffet
Eating her curds and whey (curds and whey is actually cottage cheese!)
Along came a spider
And sat down beside her
And frightened Miss Muffet away!

Humpty Dumpty*

Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall
Humpty Dumpty had a great fall
All the Kings horses and
All the Kings men
Couldn't put Humpty
Together again!
*omitted for 30 minute shows

Rock A Bye Baby

Rock a bye baby
On the tree top
When the wind blows
The cradle will rock
When the bough breaks
The cradle will fall
And down will come baby
Cradle and all

Sing a Song of Six Pence
(Audience volunteers used to
dress up and act out the rhyme)

Sing a Song of Six Pence
A pocket full of rye
Four and twenty blackbirds
Baked in a pie
When the pie was opened
The birds began to sing
Wasn't that a dainty dish
To set before the king?

Old Woman who lived in a shoe

There was an old woman who lived in a shoe
She had so many children she didn't know what to do
So she gave them some broth without any bread
And she kissed them all sweetly
And sent them to bed.

The King was in his counting house
Counting out his money
The Queen was in the parlor
Eating bread and honey
The maid was in the garden
Hanging out the clothes
When along came a little bird
And pecked off her nose!

****I'm A Little Teapot**

I'm a little teapot short and stout
Here is my handle
Here is my spout
When I get all steamed up this I shout
Tip me over and pour me out!
**Bonus rhyme performed with a teacher if
time permits.

Post Program Activity:
The Mother Goose Pretend Game:

Have children act out their favorite Mother Goose rhyme. Simple costumes like hats or dishes could be used. *Hey Diddle, Diddle* is a good rhyme to act out. Have children become the different animals in the rhyme. Have a child hold a plastic dish and another hold a spoon and skip hand in hand across the room together. Have one child become the cat and pretend to hold and play a fiddle. Have another child become a cow and jump high while mooing. Have a third child become the dog that laughed. Costumes could be headbands with ears and tails taped to their back.

Have children make a simple puppet out of a paper bag. Have the child and their puppet "perform" as they saw Mother Goose perform a rhyme with one of her puppets.

Make up their own rhymes:

Give children the first one to two lines of a Mother Goose rhyme and have them finish it with their own rhyming words different from the original verse.

Ask children to finish a Mother Goose rhyme in another way from the original; similar to how Goosy changed the rhymes in the show:

Example: Mary had a little lamb, a little toast and a little jam.
Mary had a little goose, and it drank orange juice.

Rhyming games:

Have children practice rhyming words orally. Say a word like "cat" and see how many words they can think of to rhyme with the original word.

Vocabulary words:

fleece	cradle	reply
spout	gander (a male goose)	dainty
bough	wander	lamb
carving	linger	
patient	eager	

Math

What is four and twenty? (24)

Six pence – English money equal to a half schilling. Pence are like our pennies.

TEKS

English Language Arts EE's: Reading, developing vocabulary, listening, speaking

110.2 - English Language Arts and Reading, Kindergarten.

110.2.K.10.A,B,C,D

110.2.K.15.A,B,C,D,E,F

117.4 - Theatre, Kindergarten.

117.4.K.2.A,B,C,D

110.3 - English Language Arts and Reading, Grade 1.

110.3.1.13.A,B,C,D,E

110.3.1.19.A,B,C,D,E

110.3.1.21.A,B

117.7 - Theatre, Grade 1.

117.7.1.2.A,B,C,D

110.4 - English Language Arts and Reading, Grade 2.

110.4.2.10.A,B,C,D

110.4.2.17.A,B,C,D

110.4.2.18.A,B,C,D,E,F

117.10 - Theatre, Grade 2.

117.10.2.2.A,B,C,D

Audience behavior: It is advisable that the audience size for the Mother Goose programs is no larger than 100. Please advise Margaret the size of your audience so she can plan accordingly. If larger audiences are the only option, please ask teachers to also model good behavior for the children and not carry on extraneous conversations that may distract from the performance. We ask that teachers sit **WITH** their classes and not in a row across the back of the room.