

Play is the most powerful way young children learn.

- Every time you play, sing or read with young children they are learning about language.
- The following activities have been designed for early childhood professionals to use as a starting point for developing children’s early literacy skills through play.
- Please feel free to adapt them for the home and with children of different ages.
- Don’t forget to record your own ideas, activities that worked really well, relevant songs and rhymes in the Notes section opposite.
- Visit our website www.thelittlebigbookclub.com for more fun printable activities based on this book.

Engaging with Language and Literacy

Before Sharing the Story:

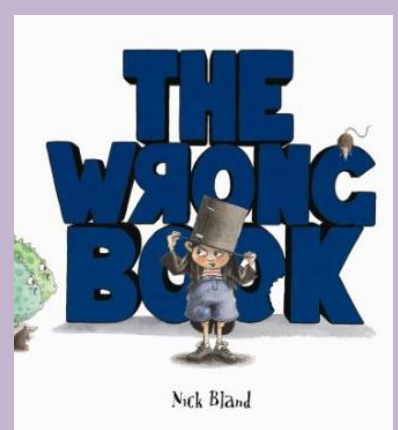
- Spend some time looking at and discussing the cover of the book before reading the story.
- Ask the children what they think the story might be about.
- Look at first picture of Nicholas Ickle and the last picture of Nicolas Ickle with the children.
What is different?
Talk about his facial expressions?
How do think he is feeling at the beginning of the story?
How do think he is feeling at the end of the story?

After Reading the Story:

- Make a list of all the characters the children can remember from the book.
Which was their favourite character?
- Talk with the children about the concepts of wrong and opposite.

Make Your Own Books:

- The children can create their own book *About Me*.
The title of the book can be the child’s name and feature key phrases such as:
I am special because..
My favourite food is...
I am .. years old.



The Wrong Book
Nick Bland

Notes

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- Create your own big book based on the Wrong book. The first page could be the teacher's name... Hello my name is Sarah Smith and this book is about...and each subsequent page can be one of the children entering the book.
The children can help write the responses.

Being Creative Through Play

Make A Life Size Friend

- Trace around the children's bodies for them on large sheets of paper.
- Let them decorate their bodies with paints and collage materials.
- The children can draw their own faces or you could photocopy and enlarge photos of the children's faces and attach them to their bodies.
- Display the paper children around the room.
- When you have finished with the display the children may like to take their special friend home.

Wrong Clothes Day:

- Invite the children to come dressed up in wrong or opposite clothes.
- They might like to wear odd socks or shoes or their clothes inside out.

Nicholas Ickle Hat:

- Make a hat just like Nicholas Ickle's with the children. Use black cardboard for the top of the hat and a large paper plate with the centre cut out for the brim.
- Make hats that the other characters in the book wore.

Exploring Our World

Discovering Sensory Play:

- Set up an opposite's sensory table.
You could include tastes such as sour lemons and sweet oranges; textures such soft cotton wool and rough sandpaper; instruments such a loud drums and quiet triangles.
- Set up a table with mirrors for the children to look at themselves and their different expressions.
Can they happy face?
Can they make a sad face?
Can they make an angry face?

More Books By Nick Bland:

A Monster Wrote Me A Letter

I've Lost My Kisses

Aussie Jingle Bells

Donald Loves Drumming

The Very Cranky Bear

When Henry Caught Imaginitis

Useful Websites and Links:

For Printable Activities:

www.thelittlebigbookclub.com

Enjoying Dramatic and Musical Play

Retelling the Story:

- Include a variety of costumes in the dress up area for the children to re-enact the story.
- You could include an elephant trunk, monster mask, pirate patch and queen’s crown.

Sing Songs That Feature Opposites:

- *Open Shut Them*
Open, shut them, open shut them
Give a little clap
Open, shut them, open shut them
Lay them in your lap
Creep them, creep them, creep them, creep them
Right up to your chin
Open wide your little mouth
But do not let them in
Shake them, shake them, shake them, shake them
Shake them just like this
Roll them, roll them, roll them, roll them
Blow a great big kiss.....Muah!

Sing again but do the *wrong* actions.
Shut your hands when you sing *open* and open your hands when you sing *shut them*.

- *The Grand Old Duke of York*
Oh, the grand old Duke of York,
He had ten thousand men;
He marched them up to the top of the hill,
And he marched them down again.
And when they were up, they were up,
And when they were down, they were down,
And when they were only half way up,
They were neither up nor down.
- *In Upsy Down Town*.
In Upsy Down Town, the sky is in the sea.
The rabbits in the nest where the birds should be.
The rain is falling up, instead of falling down.
Down in Upsy Down Town.
There's a chocolate cake as white as snow,
the more you eat the bigger it grows.
You walk upon your nose instead of your toes.
Down in Upsy Down Town.

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- I've Lost My Kisses*
- Aussie Jingle Bells*
- Donald Loves Drumming*
- The Very Cranky Bear*
- When Henry Caught Imaginitis*

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