



MOTHER GOOSE NEWS BY JANE KITSON * VOL. 10 FALL 2006

Wow...where did the summer go? I am certain each of you have heard or said this to your peers.

I hope you had time to enjoy your families. We enjoyed trips to the beach twice. Once on the Atlantic side near St. Augustine and once on the Gulf Coast near Naples. While in St. Augustine, I was able to visit with several schools and share Mother Goose programs with their children. This was grand fun and it reinforced the idea that my songs and fingerplays are appealing to children across the county as well as here in the Atlanta area. I have worked with children (in schools) from New Jersey to Arizona and enjoy meeting new friends and watching their faces light up.

On a personal note, we have a neighbor whose son started Kindergarten and my daughter is watching him one day a week after school.

On the first day, he steps off the bus and she asks, "How was school?" "Hmmm..." "Did you enjoy riding the bus?" "Well, it was not as fun as you would think it would be!" We all got a major chuckle out of that comment because (for preschoolers) the bus ride seems to be enchanting ...until they have done it a few years! FYI...we live less than 2 miles from the local elementary school...it's an awfully quick trip!



Over the summer, I have been thinking about a few of the games I have played with young children. We know that games reinforce so many pre- reading skills! Anyway, here are some that are quite easy to do and great for auditory and visual discrimination!

Choose a large tray (kind of like a TV tray of old) and place various items on it that relate to each other. For example...things you would find in your bathroom:

Q-tips, Band-aids, Tissue, Toilet Paper Roll, Shampoo, Cotton Ball, Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Soap etc. Place the tray in front of the group and ask each child to carefully look over the items. I suggest you take turns mentioning the items and you may want to let the children pick up an item and say what it is. Then, the children are close their eyes, no peeking, and you remove one item from the tray. Then they will open their eyes and if they know what the item is...put their hand (quietly) on top of their head... NO ME MONSTERS! Take turns telling what item is missing. This can be extended in so many ways:

THINGS RELATED TO BIRTHDAYS

THINGS YOU FIND IN THE KITCHEN

THINGS WE SEE AT HALLOWEEN



Take advantage of the advertisement inserts from local department and grocery stores. You will need two copies of the same advertisement and a stack of colored index cards. Cut out various items:

- i.e. 2 pictures of glue sticks
- 2 pictures of Pop Tarts
- 2 pictures of Cheerios
- 2 pictures of markers
- 2 pictures of book bags
- 2 pictures of juice

Glue one picture on each index card so that there is a matching pair. Show them to your children and then turn them over and mix them up on the table. The children will then turn one card over and try to guess where the matching card is. If they can locate the card, they can keep the set until all sets are accounted for. Many of you know this as the formal game of Memory but it is easy to reproduce and you may even be able to send the supplies and instructions home to a parent. You can have a fresh game to play each month with little effort on your part!!! Additionally, it is also a wonderful way for children to "read" the logos of the products pictured!





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By now, many of you have enjoyed the activity I share with the HEFTY ZOO PALS Plates. Here is another twist on that song:

IF YOU SEE SOMEONE WHO IS WEARING RED...
IF YOU SEE SOMEONE WHO IS WEARING RED...
IF YOU SEE SOMEONE WHO IS WEARING RED...
POINT TO THEM RIGHT NOW!



IF YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO HAS A BROTHER...
IF YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO HAS A BROTHER...
IF YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO HAS A BROTHER...
POINT TO THEM RIGHT NOW!



IF YOU KNOW A GIRL WHOSE LAST NAME IS MASON...
IF YOU KNOW A GIRL WHOSE LAST NAME IS MASON...
IF YOU KNOW A GIRL WHOSE LAST NAME IS MASON...
POINT TO HER RIGHT NOW!

Tune:
SKIP TO MY LOO



I hope you enjoy this easy song that will be an asset to your classroom all year. It reminds the children about important issues while inside and outside the school...

Walk, Walk, Walking feet...
When we are inside!
Running, Running, Running feet...
When the space is open wide!



Voices should be turned down low...
When we are inside!
Loud and Proud should be your voice...
When the space is open wide!

(Row, Row, Row Your Boat!)

I am personally thankful for all of the wonderful blessings we have as we live in America!

**Let's be thankful...
Let's be thankful...
every day, every day!
For the many blessings,
For the many blessings,
That come our way...
That come our way!
Friends and family,
Friends and Family...
Clothes and food...
Clothes and food,
Pets and Houses,
Pets and Houses
with many rooms...
with many rooms!**



Be kind to your friends everyday!
Share a smile, a hug or a wave!
When you're feeling sad or blue...
Your friends will help you through!
So be kind to your friends



everyday!

(Tune: Hoorah for the Red White and Blue)

I am very excited about the fall ahead of me! I will be going to two new states...Rhode Island and Alaska! It has been such a wonderful opportunity meeting new people and making friends who drop me e-mails throughout the year! I especially love it when educators share my name with the staff development personnel in their school and I am invited to come on their campus and meet their precious children and fellow educators. Please let me know if you would like me to visit with your staff and if I can, I will share a FREE children's program with your class!

I have a new CD coming out this month:
HIGH LOW, NO MATTER WHERE YOU GO...ALWAYS TAKE YOUR SMILE WITH YOU!
Check out the order form later this month...if you want one NOW...e-mail me for pre-order!
Hugs to all and HAPPY FALL!!!

I am always looking for funny children's stories. If you have one to share please send it to me via e-mail....I will be sharing these in my next newsletter and YOUR NAME will be included. I can't wait to hear from you!