



Activity Ideas for *What Does the Wind Say?* (NorthWord Press)

Language/Phonemic Awareness

After reading the story at least once, read through it again and have the children find rhyming words.

Find things in the story that start with a /s/ (or end with a /t/ or have two syllables, etc.

In the story, the sound of the wind is described as “whish-a-who”. Have the children give ideas as to what the rain would say? The snow? The sunshine? Etc.

Have children talk about personal experiences they have had that are similar to those in the book (i.e. Have they gone camping? Have they laid outside looking at the stars? Have they played in the leaves? etc. What words would describe their experiences? What do they remember most?

Math

Counting- how many of different things are there? (cactus plants, yellow things, birds, hearts, etc.)

Size comparisons- Which is the largest tree? The smallest? Etc.

Visual Acuity/Matching

Find objects in the story that match objects you show such as sunglasses, flashlight, rubber duck, toy ball, etc.

Play "I Spy" by asking children to find a specific object in the book (i.e. "Watch for the pencil, the yellow hat, the red bird, etc.)

Science/Social Studies

This story could be an introduction to a unit study of any of these topics:

Seasons (There are pages that depict every season)

Weather (There are pages depicting rain, snow, wind, sun, day and night)

Climate regions (There are pages depicting mountains, deserts, beaches, meadows, forests, etc.)

Bugs and Insects

Families

Camping

Snow

Concepts

Colors- find the items of a certain color on a given page

Shapes- find all the square items, round items, triangular items, etc.

Textures- describe the textures you see in the items in the book. What else has the same texture? Bring in items and let the children feel their textures. Do they match textures they see in the story? Have them bring items from home.