



Activities for Family Reading Week that extend storybooks:

1. ***Harold and the Purple Crayon***- Make purple crayon dough:

- Chop up 2 ½ crayons with a cheese grater, food processor, or knife.
- In a large bowl, mix together dry ingredients (3 cups flour, 1 ½ cup salt, 2 Tbsp. cream of tartar).
- Heat 2 tablespoons of oil in a pan and add the chopped crayons. Stir until the crayons are completely melted.
- Slowly stir in 2 cups of water while stirring.
- Slowly stir in the dry ingredients. The dough will pull together in a ball over the heat. Once the dough pulls together, dump it out onto a cutting board or counter. Let the dough cool until you can tolerate kneading. Knead the dough for a few minutes until smooth.

Adapted from- <http://www.sugaraunts.com/2014/08/crayon-play-dough-harold-and-purple.html>

2. ***Where the Wild Things Are***- Max gets in trouble for trying to build a tent for himself with a blanket and rope. Build a fort for children to read or hang out in by putting sheets or blankets over the backs of chairs. A large appliance box could also be used as a fort. Let the wild rumpus begin!



<http://thingstodowithkids.com/>

3. ***Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs***- Make different types of weather stations so children can see and measure the weather in action. But hopefully there are no meatballs involved!
- Anemometer to measure wind speed
 - Weather vane
 - Barometer
 - Thermometer
 - Hygrometer to measure humidity
 - Rain gauge

http://oceanservice.noaa.gov/education/for_fun/BuildyourownWeatherStation.pdf

4. ***Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day***- Alexander's teacher is not impressed with his picture of an invisible castle. Write a message to someone using invisible ink and see if they can read it.

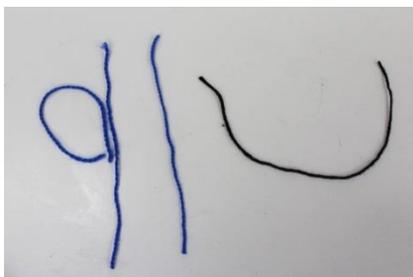
Materials needed:

- Bottled lemon juice or a fresh lemon
- Water
- Small bowl
- Q tips
- Paper
- Heat source, such as a lightbulb or flashlight

What to do:

Squeeze the fresh lemon or pour juice from the bottle into the bowl. Add a little water to barely dilute the juice. Dip the Q tip into the juice getting it very wet and write a message on the paper. Let the paper dry and then put it over the heat source to read the message.

5. ***Make Way for Ducklings***- Mrs. Mallard lays eight eggs that hatch into her family of ducklings that follow her around Boston. Have your children form a line and follow you around the room, just like the ducklings did. After they've seen you do it, let them take a turn being the mama duck.
6. ***Charlotte's Web***- Charlotte wove words into her spider web to try and save Wilbur's life. Have children write words with pieces of string on the table, or glue the string letters onto construction paper.



http://www.littlelifelonglearners.com/2013_05_01_archive.html

7. **Caps for Sale**- The peddler has many styles of caps to sell. There are different types of paper plate hats you can make with children. Here are some patterns to try.

<http://alphamom.com/family-fun/holidays/diy-holiday-hats-for-every-occasion/>

<http://www.crayola.com/crafts/community-helper-hats-craft/>



8. **Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?**- Make your own version of the Brown Bear book. Use members of your immediate and/or extended family, class, or storytime group as the characters-“Mommy, mommy what do you see?” “I see daddy looking at me”.
9. **Curious George**- George is curious about the world around him. Encourage your child’s curiosity by doing some of these science and cooking activities included in the Curious George Family Activity Booklet-

http://www.pbs.org/parents/curiousgeorge/activities/pc_activities.html#fab

10. **Winnie the Pooh**- Make this cute craft by painting a paper plate a yellowish brown color and gluing yarn and pom-poms for facial features.



<http://www.surfandsunshine.com/winnie-the-pooh-crafts/>

11. **The Very Hungry Caterpillar**- There are some fun food ideas to do for The Very Hungry Caterpillar. You can serve the foods mentioned in the story, or try these two ideas.



http://thestir.cafemom.com/food_party/7724/Party_Idea_The_Very_Hungry



<http://nurturestore.co.uk/?s=very+hungry+caterpillar>

12. **Goodnight Moon**- Children are fascinated with the night sky. Paint a picture of the moon with this 3-D paint recipe.

Materials needed:

- ½ cup white glue
- 1 ½ cups shaving cream- not gel

- Mixing bowl
- Tagboard or cardstock to paint on- Cut into a moon shape

Mix together 1 part white glue to 3 parts shaving cream. Spoon the paint onto the tagboard and encourage your child to move their hands through the paint to create swirls and dimensions in it. Let dry overnight.



<http://www.notimeforflashcards.com/2009/05/lunar-landing.html>