




Morning Circle

Play a guessing game with the children to review the letter "R." Say, "I'm thinking of an animal, a very BIG animal whose name begins with 'r.'" Let the children make a few guesses, then give more clues: it is dark gray, has a big horn on its nose, etc., until they guess "rhinoceros." Choose a few more "R" words and continue the guessing game. Try "run," "rainbow," "rock," "rabbit," "red," and "rooster," for example.

Tell the children that today's story is about...not a rooster, but a hen. (You might quickly explain that a rooster is a "boy chicken" and a hen is a girl.) Ask the children if they've ever heard the story of The Little Red Hen. Ask them if they noticed the "r" word in the title. When the children recognize "red," from the title, take a few minutes to let the children point out some red objects in the room around them.



Then, read the story, (by Paul Galdone,) and briefly discuss it.



Music & Movement:

Play song, "Little Red Hen" by Jackie Cytrynbaum (hear a sample at: <http://songsforteaching.com/s/avni/LittleRedHen.mp3>.) Lead children in acting out the words as they are sung. For information on ordering Fran's CD, "Artichokes and Brussel Sprouts," see

<http://www.songsforteaching.com/store/product.php?productid=1083> .

Snack:

Bake your own bread at school. A bread machine simplifies the process, and children can measure out and add the ingredients themselves. Alternately, provide an assortment of breads (wheat, white, rye, pita, tortillas, naan, cinnamon swirl, sourdough, etc.) for the children to sample, along with various toppings, including jams, butter, Vegemite or Marmite, cream cheese, or other favorites.

Additional Activity:

Take a field trip to a local bakery, and show the children how bread is made for sale in the supermarket. In addition, consider showing a video on bread production from seed to table.



Additional Activities online

Center Activities

1. Bread dough or play dough. Either thaw out frozen bread dough, and cut it into sections for the children to knead, stretch, and roll, or provide play dough with various accessories for the children to cut, shape, pat, and "bake."
2. Measuring. Set out a variety of measuring cups, spoons, plates, bowls, sifters, and pans. Provide uncooked rice, dry lentils, uncooked couscous, and large dry red beans for the children to measure, pour, and transfer.
3. Farm center. Set up a farm table with barn, animals, tractors, fences, and even a little hay to set the atmosphere.

Art Activity

Little Red Hen

Use fingerpaints and feathers to create "Little Red Hens." Provide cut-outs of hen bodies and let the children use two shades of red fingerpaints to color them in. When the bodies are dry, let the children glue on red feathers for the hen's tail-feathers. Use wiggle- or googly-eyes for the hen's eyes. Cute!



Bible Story



Bread, Bread, Bread by Ann Morris (from the Around the World series.) Take some time with this book and discuss all the different types of breads people around the world eat everyday. Highlight that bread is a fundamental part of the human diet. Explain that Jesus calls Himself "the bread of life."

Bible Verse Bracelets: John 6:48 "I am the bread of life." (NIV) Discuss what Jesus meant when He said these words. What do the children think it means?

Song: Play "I Am the Bread of Life" song from the "Jesus? Who Is He?" CD by Twin Sisters. For a song sample, see Online.

Additional Crafts and Activities online

