

Home Routines and Learning Opportunities

Sample Pages from *Mouse Paint*

<i>When</i>	<i>What to Do</i>
Throughout the Day	<p>Tell parts of the <i>Mouse Paint</i> Story or talk about the characters in the book (e.g., talk about the mouse climbing into paint jars, mixing paint, or hiding from the cat)</p> <p>Talk about the special sound you want the child to hear (e.g., /p/ when painting with a brush or fingers or jumping in pretend puddles)</p> <p>Talk about a new color each day (e.g., on Tuesday, talk about red pictures, red food, red clothing)</p>
Morning Wake-up and Dressing	<p>Tell the story or parts of the story while you are dressing the child</p> <p>Offer a book for the child to hold while he or she is waiting</p> <p>Offer a storybook toy (e.g., stuffed mouse toy) for the child to hold</p> <p>Hang a picture (e.g., mouse with feet) and talk about feet while dressing</p> <p>Talk about an activity you will do after the child is dressed</p>
Snack/ Mealtime	<p>Talk about the color of food while your child is watching or helping you to prepare the snack or meal</p> <p>Talk about the special food you are making and its color (e.g., soft white bread, red applesauce, yellow banana, blueberries, green spinach)</p> <p>Offer the storybook, a toy, or sing a song (e.g., "Three <i>White Mice</i>") while your child is waiting</p> <p>Add food coloring to food (e.g., oatmeal, applesauce) and mix colors while the child is watching (e.g., mix yellow and blue to make green potatoes)</p> <p>Play with food (e.g., drop a dot of food coloring on vanilla pudding and have the child mix it with his or her fingers)</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Continued on next page</i></p>



Play Time	<p>Tell the story using props (e.g., stuffed sock mice, paper paint cans) and give your child the props to handle</p> <p>Give toys, pictures, or materials related to story (e.g., plastic clothespins, blocks, Legos in colors, color containers, mice made out of a stuffed sock, pictures of paint cans or puddles of color)</p> <p>Play games with your child (e.g., sorting colors, hide-and-seek/cat-and-mouse, or dancing with color scarves)</p> <p>Play with art or sensory activities (e.g., mix colors with paint or play dough in a zip lock bag or on paper)</p>
Motor or Outdoor Play	<p>Offer your child activities related to the story (e.g., color sock bean bag toss, waving color flags)</p> <p>Show your child actions from the story (e.g., stepping or jumping on a pretend puddle of paint)</p> <p>Enjoy messy activities (e.g., painting large pictures of one color, stirring paint with feet, or making footprints) and washing off the paint</p>
Visits Outside the Home	<p>Read the story or retell it while you are waiting</p> <p>Talk about how the story relates to what is happening around you (e.g., talk about the colors that you see)</p> <p>Bring the story, other books, or story props with you (e.g., bring a sock mouse puppet)</p> <p>Bring an easy-to-carry activity (e.g., color papers to sort)</p>
Bath Time	<p>Offer water-proof books or toys (e.g., color containers to fill and dump)</p> <p>Point out pictures on the wall or make pictures in soap or bubbles and talk about the sound /p/ and painting</p> <p>Add a drop of food coloring to a cup of water, pour on your child's foot and wash off and talk about what you are doing</p> <p>Play a game (e.g., hiding toys under body parts)</p> <p>Talk about the activities you did today or what you will do later</p>
Nap or Bed Time	<p>Read or talk about the story or parts of the story</p> <p>Read other books with similar ideas</p> <p>Give your child a book and story props to handle</p> <p>Tell the story using props (e.g., stuffed sock mice, paper paint cans)</p> <p>Talk about the pictures, the story, what you did today, what you will do tomorrow, and/or how the story relates to the child's life</p>

