

Celebrate Seuss!

Goal: Motivate students to view reading as a fun, creative outlet as well as a way to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to achieve their future goals.

BookSpring will provide:

- Seuss Character costumes
- Assortment of Dr. Seuss books
- Yertle the Turtle and Fox in Sox Puzzles
- Cat in the Hat Doll
- Book Page Pinwheels (8)
- Dr. Seuss Trivia Sheet
- Readers Theater Scripts (8)
- Green Eggs Rhyming Game
- Dr. Seuss Calendar and assorted Seuss props!



Special thanks to **Amanda Braziel** from Blackshear Elementary for her help in the development of this activity!

Description of Activity:

1. As students enter, they will see their librarian (and volunteers, as well) dressed as a Dr. Seuss character surrounded by Dr. Seuss books and other books in line with the theme of places they can go with reading. Librarian can share his/her favorite Dr. Seuss book and ask if the students have any favorites of their own.
2. Read the read-aloud selection.

Possible Related Activities:

- Green Eggs Rhyming Game
 - Readers Theater
(Dr. Seuss Birthday Tribute)
 - Where Would You Go? Globe Toss Game
 - Dr. Seuss Trivia and *We Love Seuss Books* Chant
3. Invite students choose their book to take home and wish them many fun and exciting adventures!

Tech Connection: Here is a fun link to all kinds of *Green Eggs and Ham* fun to print offline: <http://www.randomhouse.com/kids/activities/print/green-eggs-and-ham.pdf>. Here is a website of so many things Seuss: <http://www.seussville.com/>.

Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills: K: 21 A&B, 1st: 27 A&B, 2nd: 28A&B, 3rd: 29A, 4th: 110.6 b.(1) A&C (3) A, 5th 110.7 b (1) A, (3) A, (8) A-C

Common Core: ELA-Literacy. RL.K.10, SL.K.1a-K.2, 1.1a-c, 1.2, 1.3, 2.1a-c, 2.2, 2.3, 3.1a-d, 4.3, 4.4, 4.1d, 4.6, RF 4.4a-cSI 4.2, SI 5.3, 5.6, RI5.2, 5.8, 5.10

Suggested Read-Aloud Books

Grade Level:

Pre-Kinder through Second Grade

Suggested Read-Aloud:

Green Eggs and Ham

By: Dr. Seuss

Discussion Points:

1. *Green Eggs and Ham* uses rhyming words. Encourage students to listen for the rhyming words at the end of each line. Let them know there is a rhyming game for practice at the end of the story! (See green egg rhyming game, included)
2. The characters in this story are both very adamant about their positions; this is a good way to remind students how much more fun reading can be when you do it with feeling! What are some feeling words they can think of to describe the characters in the story? Can they show these feelings with their voices?
3. Sam really believes that green eggs and ham are great, and he doesn't give up until he gets his new friend to try them! Have students ever had to work really hard for a purpose they believe in? This is a good transition to Seuss Trivia. (Dr. Seuss got rejected 27 times before his first book was published!)
4. Remember the rhyming game! Have students find their rhyming matches!
5. Wrap up with learning the We Love Seuss Books chant (based on Green Eggs and Ham) to encourage continuing to read!

Grade Level:

Third through Fifth Grade

Suggested Read-Aloud:

Oh, the Places You'll Go

By: Dr. Seuss

Discussion Points:

1. Before reading, look out at the students and exclaim how many adventurous-looking students you see! Do they know how many places they'll go and how many of those places reading can take them? Place books about all different places around the reading area and encourage the students to take a vacation in a book! Share the Seuss quote: "The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more you learn, the more places you'll go!"
2. As you read, stop and reflect on how students think through decisions. Also, how do they feel when they are taking the lead? What is it like when they hit a snag? What is hard for them to have to wait for in "the waiting place"?
3. Questions after Reading: What was different about the illustrations for the "happy" places and the "dark" places? Why do you think Dr. Seuss did this? Books often have what is called a theme; the theme is the main point of the story. What main point do you think Dr. Seuss was trying to make when he wrote this book?
4. *Oh, the Places You'll Go* was the last book Dr. Seuss ever wrote, would you like to learn some more Seuss Trivia? (Share Seuss Trivia facts)

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www.bookspring.org

Dr. Seuss Birthday Tribute (Reader's Theater)

by Amanda Braziel

(Thing 1 & 2 portion adapted from a blog post by Corey Schwartz)

CAST of CHARACTERS, in order of appearance:

Narrator (Cat in the Hat)	Thing 1
Thing 2	Fish in Dish
Mr. Brown	The Grinch
The Lorax	

NARRATOR:

HOORAY!! It's a very special day. WHY?? you say?
Because It's READ ACROSS the USA...
When Dr. Seuss gets accolades, parties, picnics, and parades!

WHO was Dr. Seuss? Why, you silly goose!
He made characters in lots of books. Come, let's take some looks...
Some of them are here toDAY to help us as we celebrate
the way he made words dance and play!

READY???? OKAY!!! (Thing 1 and Thing 2 make noise off stage:)

"Who is that?"

AUDIENCE: (with help from other characters & teachers):
WHO IS THAT?

NARRATOR: They're a Seussical pair from *The Cat in the Hat*
They come out of a box, (Things roll the box out from behind the curtain to center stage)
Thing 1 and Thing 2. (THINGS WALK OUT OF BOX)
They do not say much,
Just...

THING 1 & THING 2: HOW DO YOU DO? (THINGS lean heads away then toward each other on How & 2nd DO)

NARRATOR: They make mischief & mayhem
with "bumps, jumps, and kicks" (THINGS BUMP INTO EACH OTHER then 1 JUMPS 2 KICKS)
They like to fly kites (THINGS MIME FLYING A KITE)
and do lots of bad tricks (THINGS PULL "FISH'S" HAIR)
They destroy the whole house
while running about (THINGS RUN AROUND STAGE)
as the fish in the dish yells,

FISH IN DISH:
"You must get them out!"

NARRATOR: Till at last, mom is seen at the end of the day. (THINGS HOLD HANDS OVER EYES AND
LOOK OUT TOWARD BACK OF GYM AS IF SPOTTING MOM)
And the Cat packs them up and takes them away.
(THINGS GET BACK IN BOX & walk it off stage as CAT WAVES GOOD BYE)

MR. BROWN: (from halfway off stage, with head sticking out from curtain):
Cock a Doodle DOOOOOOO..... MOOOOOOOOOOO

NARRATOR: Oh My! Was that Chicken, a COW or a CLOWN? Oh, no...
I see NOW! It's Mr. BROWN! Mr. Brown can...

MR. BROWN:

MOOOOOOO

NARRATOR:

How about YOU? (*wait for audience & characters on stage to MOOOOO*)
Pretty good, children! I guess that was a cinch! (*wave hand down from elbow*)
But, I ask, could you get along with a... (*ENTER THE GRINCH.*)

GRINCH:

GRINCH?! (shouts grumpily)
He's green and he's hairy and he's oh, so scary!
His heart is tiny; tied up in a pinch
Just the mere thought of him makes me flinch! (*GRINCH LUNGES & HOLDS UP A FIST*)
He's a mean one, Mr. Grinch! (*GRINCH TRUDGES OFF STAGE*)

NARRATOR:

But WAIT that's not all...
here comes a guy who's 3 feet tall.. (*ENTER THE LORAX*)
His name is the Lorax
He knows all the facts

LORAX:

I SPEAK FOR THE TREES (*Gestures to the Truffula Trees on Stage*)
Put down that ax!
"Unless someone like you (*wags finger & points to audience*)...
cares a whole awful lot...
NOTHING is going to get better...It's NOT (*shakes head no & crosses arms in front of chest*)."

NARRATOR:

"Today you are you!
That is truer than true!
There is no one alive
Who is You-er than YOU!

Shout loud, "I am lucky to be what I am!"

AUDIENCE (with help from other characters off stage): I AM LUCKY TO BE WHAT I AM!

NARRATOR:

That's a
great thing to be!
If I say so myself,
HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ME! (*ALL SEUSSICAL CHARACTERS WALK BACK ONTO STAGE, still in character, to join elbows with Lorax in center, Things on either side*)

Now be free and really let loose as we sing
HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO dear DR. SEUSS!

(Whole School Sings as Seuss characters lock arms and sway back and forth on the stage.)

ALL SHOUT TOGETHER: HAPPY READ ACROSS AMERICA DAY!

Dr. Seuss Trivia

1. Dr. Seuss' first book, *And To Think That I Saw It On Mulberry Street*, was rejected by publishers **27 TIMES** before it was finally published.
2. Dr. Seuss' books have been translated into at least 15 different languages.
3. One of the trademarks of Dr. Seuss' artwork is that it contains no straight lines.
4. Dr. Seuss meant for his book *Oh, the Places You'll Go* to be read to babies before they were even born because he felt that encouraging a love of reading in children was so important that it should be started as early as possible.
5. About one in four American children receive a Dr. Seuss book as their first book.
6. Dr. Seuss was not a real doctor; he chose to call himself "Dr." Seuss because his father had always wanted him to pursue a career in medicine. During his lifetime, Dr. Seuss received seven honorary doctorates from different universities.
7. Dr. Seuss wrote more than 40 books which have sold over half a **BILLION** copies. His last book, *Oh, the Places You'll Go*, stayed on the bestseller list for over two years!
8. Although Dr. Seuss loved to write, he believed that his greatest contribution was the Lion Wading Pool at the Wild Animal Park in San Diego which he donated in 1973.
9. An article in *Life Magazine* stating that children's books of the time were dull and lacking in creativity called upon writers such as Dr. Seuss to take on the challenge of writing more exciting children's books. The article inspired Dr. Seuss to write *The Cat in the Hat*.
10. Dr. Seuss' editor bet him that he couldn't write a book using only 50 words. As a result of that bet, *Green Eggs and Ham* was written. It contains exactly 50 words and is one of Seuss' most popular books.



We Love Seuss Books!

We love Seuss books, yes we do!

We love to read them; you should, too!

We would read them in a school.

And, we would read them with a mule.

We would read them in a chair.

We would read them with a bear!

We will read them in the dark;

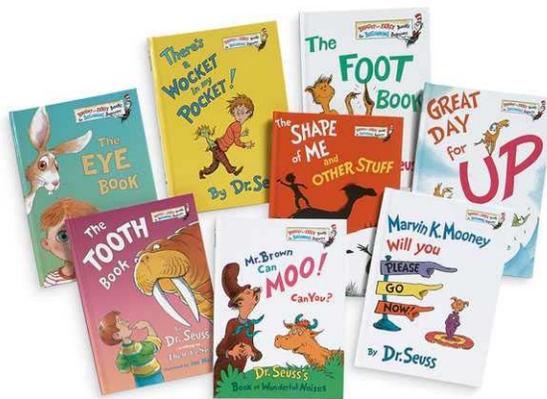
We will read them in the park.

We will read them here and there;

We will read them **ANYWHERE!**

We love Seuss books, yes we do!

We love to read them; you should, too!



Oh, the Places You'll Go, Globe Toss Game

Use the inflatable globe for this game. Start in a circle with the librarian holding the globe first. The goal is for each student to think of a place they would like to visit (China) or something special they would like to see (The Eiffel Tower) When the ball comes to them they will name their goal place. Each student names a place and GENTLY tosses the globe to another student across the circle who also names a goal place. This continues until all students have had a turn and the ball is returned to the librarian. Try to keep it moving without dropping the ball. If you can, you'll have good luck in your adventures!



Green Egg Rhyming Game

Each student is given one half of a green egg with a rhyming word on it. Their goal is to find another student with a matching top or bottom egg piece that has a rhyming word that matches their own on it.

Note: Dr. Seuss' birthday is March 2nd. If your BookSpring Day falls around that time, you may want to sing Happy Birthday to Dr. Seuss with his own birthday song:

"If we didn't have birthdays,
you wouldn't be you.
If you'd never been born,
well then what would you do?
If you'd never been born,
well then what would you be?
You might be a fish!
Or a toad in a tree!
You might be a doorknob!
Or three baked potatoes!
You might be a bag full of
hard green tomatoes."
"Or worse than all that...Why,
you might be a WASN'T!
A Wasn't has no fun at all.
No, he doesn't.
A Wasn't just isn't.
He just isn't present.

But you...You ARE YOU!
And, now isn't that pleasant!"
"Today you are you!
That is truer than true!
There is no one alive...
...who is you-er than you!
Shout loud, "I am lucky
to be what I am!
Thank goodness I'm not
just a clam or a ham
Or a dusty old jar of
sour gooseberry jam!
I am what I am! That's a
great thing to be!
If I say so myself,
HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ME!"