

VELI Math Storytime 2012 - 2013

Counting & Operations

Wendy de Forest
Richmond Free Library / Huntington Public Library

Materials Needed

Easel

Books: *Pete the Cat and his Four Groovy Buttons* and *Seven Blind Mice*

Four large “buttons” cut out of construction paper (red, green, blue, teal)

Large picture of a cat (you can draw this yourself to sort of look like Pete)

Large picture of an elephant (you can draw this too!)

Round stickers / mice stickers

Book 1: *Pete the Cat and his Four Groovy Buttons*

Litwin, Eric New York, NY : Harper c2012

Summary: Pete the cat loves the buttons on his shirt so much that he makes up a song about them, and even as the buttons pop off, one by one, he still finds a reason to sing.

(* Go online to learn Pete’s song so you can teach it to the kids and all sing it together as it comes up in the story.)

Cut out four big, groovy buttons in colors matching Pete’s. Before you begin to read put them out on the floor in front of you. As Pete’s buttons began to pop off in the story and while showing the pages that show the equations (example $4-1=3$) pop the corresponding cutout button and roll it out of sight behind you. As you do this have the kids answer for themselves the solution to the equation.

Activity 1: After finishing the book tape a picture of a cat (resembling pete as much as you can manage, which in my case was not much!) on you easel. Give each kid a round sticker and tell them they can decide to put it on Pete or put it someplace else on the picture and make it one of his buttons that popped off. Once the “buttons” are up, count the number on Pete, the number that have popped off of Pete and the total number of buttons. Then count the number of kids to make sure it is the same number as the number of buttons you gave Pete!

Song 1: (to the tune of "Ten in the bed")

There were ten groovy buttons

And Pete the cat said,

"I lost one, I lost one"

So he looked all over,

But it was gone

There were nine groovy buttons

etc..

(over)

Book 2: ***Seven Blind Mice*** by Ed Young

Take advantage of any/all counting opportunities. At the end on the page that shows the mice on the elephant. Count them to make sure they are all there and describe their location on the elephant (ie.the red mouse is at the bottom by a big foot, the white mouse is up very high on the elephant's back etc..)

Activity 2: Replace the cat picture on the easel with a picture of an elephant. Once again give each child a sticker (if you can find some that look like mice, that's great) to put someplace on the elephant or off the elephant. Observe how many are on/not on the elephant and count the total number. Count the kids again to make sure you haven't lost anyone!

Song 2:

This Old Man (Knick Knack)

Five Little Monkeys in the Mango Tree

Date of Program: Fall of 2012

This storytime was presented at the Huntington Library and at eight childcare facilities in Richmond/Huntington.

Total Attendees: 65 children, 17 adults