

The Apples of My Eyes



Michele W. Menkes
Bestinpink@aol.com
P.S. 272
10124 Seaview Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11236
(718) 241-1300

For more information, contact:

Teachers Network
IMPACT II Program
Attn: Peter A. Paul
285 West Broadway
New York, NY 10013

(212) 966-5582 Fax: (212) 941-1787
E-mail: ppaul@teachersnetwork.org
WEB SITE: www.teachersnetwork.org



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Program Outline and Overview

List of Grade Level(s): I used this program with prekindergarten students and, with some modifications, it can be used with kindergartners and first, second, and third graders.

Students: This program was developed for two prekindergarten classes totaling thirty-six children with a variety of readiness skills. They've worked in whole group and small group activities.

Major Goals and Overview: The instructional purpose of this program is to meet English language arts, mathematical, physical science, social studies, art, and computer skills and concepts. Mainly:

E2d. Produce a narrative procedure;

M5A. Select appropriate standard and nonstandard measurement tools in measurement activities; and

S1A. Demonstrates understanding of properties of objects and materials.



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Lessons Plans

The lesson plans vary in objectives, and are chock full of standards across the curriculum. Each lesson can be taught on its own merit in any order after the first lesson or be omitted if not suitable for your students' needs. Each lesson is thirty minutes. Integrating all subject areas enables the students to explore many aspects of learning. Utilizing computer skills for both drawing and writing builds the students' knowledge base and enhances their skills. The lessons are also provided from Johnny Appleseed's birthday to an extension of activities of the celebration of his kindness.

A variety of New York State Standards are addressed as students learn the origin of a tale, display their knowledge and understanding in various diverse ways, and expand their knowledge to higher-level thinking skills in all subject areas. They listen to and comprehend material to demonstrate that knowledge in ecliptic ways. They also relate new information to prior knowledge and experience, and carry out ideas and see their own learning take shape and direction.



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Lesson I: A Birthday Celebration – September 26

Aim: Who knows what today is? What do we call the day you are born? What is a nickname?

Materials: *Johnny Appleseed Goes a' Planting* by Steven Kellogg

Birthday crown

Recording of the “Happy Birthday” song

Drawing paper

Crayons or markers

Computer and printer

Record player, cassette recorder, or CD player

Procedure:

1. Let's sing “Happy Birthday.” Look around – is anyone wearing a birthday crown? Can you guess whose birthday it is?
2. Well, it was someone's birthday a long time ago, and we're celebrating it today. His name is Johnny Appleseed. That's his nickname. His real name was John Chapman. A nickname can be a name that tells something special about a person. Why would someone have the nickname of “Appleseed”?
2. Let's find out. Read book. Discuss main idea, and include mention that it's a biography, and spend time on character analysis as well.

Additional Activities: (If you wish to enrich the lesson)

1. Draw a picture about this book, by hand or computer.
2. Students can dictate to teacher what they draw.
3. Discuss any nicknames children or family members may have and why.

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Lesson II: Tasting and Graphing Apples

Aim: What is your favorite kind of apple? What is the favorite apple in our class?



Materials: Granny Smith apples (amount depends on number of students)
Red Delicious apples (pre-cut all apples)
Golden Delicious apples
Construction paper (for trees and for favorite apples) and crayons

Procedure:

1. Read apple poems and discuss the meanings.
2. What kinds of apples are there? What colors are apples?
3. Have apples pre-cut and sorted on a tray for each student.
4. Work in two or three small groups with children tasting the apples.
5. Children can color in an apple with his/her name on it, with either a red, yellow, or green crayon, or two or three colors, if indecisive about favorite apple.
6. Place all apples on graph for conclusion, and for students to see a pictograph.

Additional Activities:



1. Color in apple trees of favorite apples.
2. Give students a copy of a blank graph with a letter to parents and have them see what the favorite apple in their family could be.



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Lesson III: Cooking with Apples

Aim: The students will be able to recall a sequence of events in a story and the cooking activity following the rereading of *Johnny Appleseed Goes a' Planting* by Steven Kellogg. In other words, the students will transfer what we do first, second, and last to make a finished product.

Materials: ingredients for recipe



Frying pan, hot plate, and cooking and serving utensils
Trays and forks, cups with juice or milk
Live plants
Stuffed animals
Recipe written on chart tablet
Paper and crayons

Procedure:

1. Act out the story of Johnny Appleseed. (We will have previously read the book, so students can follow the story.) Then ask what happened first, second, and last. You can write the answers on a chart tablet.
2. We'll reread the story, and follow the sequence of events.
3. Then, we'll review the recipe, cook, and eat. Children will help measure and mix ingredients. They will have center time while educational assistant cooks the pancakes.
4. Review what we did by drawing pictures after eating. Students have the option of drawing on the computer as well, and dictating thoughts to teacher.

Additional Activities:

1. Students can type recipe on computer or write it (in higher grades).
2. Teacher can send home copies of recipe for younger students

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Lesson IV: Things that Grow on Trees / Planting Apple Seeds

Aim: How do we plant apple seeds?



Materials: Several fruits that sample what grows on trees

Paper, crayons, markers

Flowerpot or cup or clear container

Fun bag

Apple seeds

Spoons and soil and water

Rain Makes Applesauce by Julian Scheer

The Carrot Seed by Ruth Krauss

Record player, cassette recorder, or CD player and Hap Palmer song
“Growing” and Raffi song “In My Garden”

Procedure:

1. Why do we plant? Have you ever planted? What do plants need?
2. Use hands to demonstrate water cycle, after explaining that the word “cycle” is like a circle. Then say, “Get ready for a funny story. Some things are silly, but rain really does make applesauce. Listen and you’ll tell us what’s silly and what’s true.” Explain the words “true” and “silly”.
3. Make a list of things made from apples – cider, sauce, etc.
Does rain really make applesauce? How?
4. How do we plant? Read *The Carrot Seed* by Ruth Krauss. What happens in the story? How does one plant a seed?
5. Let’s plant. First, soil, seeds, then more soil, and then water.
6. Keep a plant log, as a class or with volunteers.

Additional Activities:

1. Have students create their own plant journals, and keep up with them.
2. Try using two different kinds of seeds--wet and dry--and label containers and see what grows faster or grows at all. If not, discuss reasons why the plants did not grow, and discuss how people grow differently.
Play the Hap Palmer song “Growing” and “My Garden” by Raffi.
3. Think of things that grow on trees, and make a list. If possible, put real objects in a fun bag for students to use in a center – a Growing Center.
4. Now make a list of Things from Trees/Things Not from Trees, and discuss uses.

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Lesson V: Happiness Is / What Comes from Trees

Aim: Review what we get from trees. What does the word “happy” mean? What makes you happy?

Materials: Construction paper
Any color oak tag in the shape of a heart, white or cream colored
Writing paper
Crayon
Markers
Pencils
The Giving Tree by Shel Silverstein



Procedure:

1. Review some things we get from trees. Go over previous list or write new list. Try to elicit from students what those things represent or mean to us.
2. Discuss and list what makes us happy and why.
3. Read *The Giving Tree* by Shel Silverstein.
4. Ask, “What did the tree give the boy?” Discuss concepts of giving, acceptance, and love within the story.
5. Make maps of the heart – about what happiness means. Work in small groups.
6. Share work of student volunteers.

Additional Activities:

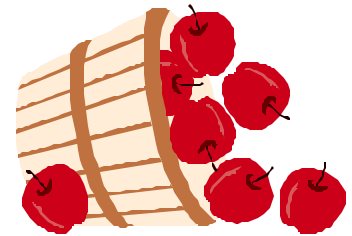
1. Write or draw a book report of the story.
2. Keep happiness journals--daily, weekly, or monthly, individually or as a class.
3. Put each journal page together and make a class book
4. Students can make their own giving trees.
5. Computer can be used for writings and drawings.



Culminating Activity: An All-Around Apple Celebration

Aim: What have we learned? What have we done? What else can we do?

Materials: Construction paper Oak tag
 Crayons Markers
 Pencils Writing paper
 Computer Growth Center books



Bulletin board of artwork Chart paper
Record player, cassette recorder, or CD player
Apple pie or apple cake and apple cider
Apple invitations to parents and possibly another class

Procedure:

1. Have children, if possible, wear something with red, green, or yellow that day. Make invitations for guests.
2. A Growth Center has already been set up, if possible in your room--even a table. There are books, magazine, and poems about apples and all that grows.
3. What were some of your favorite activities? Why? What weren't? Why?
4. Let's look at our work. Let's look at our plants. Can you remember how the apples and apple pancakes tasted? Use some science words – crunchy, tart, sweet, soft, warm, etc.
5. What are some of your favorite stories? Can you relate to anyone we read about?
6. Write an amazing apple story with your class, in small groups, or on an individual basis.
7. Dance to some songs.
8. Have an apple fest and enjoy the fruits of your labor, from the apples of your eyes!

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SAMPLE WORKSHEETS



Apple Poetry

Apples, Apples, Apples
Big apple, little apple
Growing on the tree
One apple in my hand
It's for me.
Biting, chewing
Baking, stewing
In a sauce
In a pie
Apples on my pancakes
Stacked up high.
Shiny apples, round apples
Falling on the ground apples
Green apple, yellow apple
Apple, apple red
Apple dapple dumpling
Standing on my head
Upside down and inside out
High apples, sky apples
Apples all about.

Nancy White Carlson

Two Little Apples
Two little apples hanging on a tree
Two little apples smiling at me
I shook that tree as hard as I could
Down came the apples, Mmmm were they good!

Ten Red Apples
Ten red apples grow on a tree
Five for you and five for me
Let us shake the tree just so
And then red apples will fall below
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Red Apples
Oh, pretty apples in the tree,
Send one down just for me,
It would be a delicious treat
To have a wonderful apple to eat.



Autumn Apple Pancake Recipe

Ingredients: What we need

2 cups flour
2 cups milk
1 cup pre-cut apples, any variety
4 tbsp melted butter, and butter needed for frying
syrup

What to do:

1. Wash hands
2. Go over recipe.
3. Look over tools.
4. Talk about what might happen in our cooking experiment and what might not happen.
Children can taste some apple pieces before cooking.
5. Have the children add and mix all ingredients.
6. Educational assistant cooks, while students go to center with teacher.
7. Everyone eat and enjoy!

Additional Activities:

Discuss cooking experience and our success.

Draw pictures and write a story about our cooking experience.

Review this apple poem after eating, and discuss what children think about the apples with descriptive words to inspire and aid drawings and writings.

Apples for You and Me (Tune: London Bridge is Falling Down)

See the apples on the tree, on the tree, on the tree

There's one for you and one for me,

They're so yummy!

Write class apple poem or song.

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Johnny Appleseed Goes a' Planting

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Cooking Autumn Apples

Name_____

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Planting Apple Seeds

Name _____

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Cooking Autumn Apple Pancakes

Name_____

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Things From Trees/ Things Not From Trees

Name _____

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My Giving Tree

Name _____

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Happiness is . . .

Name _____



Resources

- Local supermarkets for apples and other ingredients for pancakes and culminating activity
- Nearby apple orchard for a class trip, if possible
- Software such as Kidpix and Student Writing Center for computer.



Bibliography

Picture books on the subject area, such as how plants grow, and more copies of the three books utilized in the lessons, are needed.

Apple Books

The Story of Johnny Appleseed by Alikì
Oats and Wild Apples by Frank Asch
Johnny Appleseed Goes a' Planting by Patsy Jensen
Johnny Appleseed by Steven Kellogg
Rain Makes Applesauce by Julian Scheer

Fables and Tales

Aesop's Fables by Avenel Books
John Henry: An American Legend by Ezra Jack Keats
Paul Bunyan by Steven Kellogg
Pecos Bill by Steven Kellogg
Fables by Arnold Lobel

Books About Growing

Miss Rumphius by Barbara Cooney
Jack and the Beanstalk by Paul Galdone
The Carrot Seed by Ruth Krauss
Grasshopper on the Road by Arnold Lobel
Teach Us, Amelia Bedelia by Peggy Parish
A Tree Is Nice by Janet Udry

Poetry Books

Random House Book of Poetry for Children by Jack Prelutsky
To Think That I Saw It On Mulberry Street by Dr. Seuss
The Giving Tree by Shel Silverstein

Nonfiction Books

The Seasons of Arnold's Apple Tree by Gail Gibbons
Look Inside a Tree by Gina Ingoglia
The Young Scientist Investigates Food by Terry Jennings
The Young Scientist Investigates Seeds and Seedlings by Terry Jennings
From Appleseed to Applesauce by Hannah Lyons Johnson

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Nonfiction Books Continued

Halloween by Joyce K. Kessel
The Apple and Other Fruits by Millicent E. Selsam
Trees by Usborne First Nature Book

Magazines

Science and Children, monthly magazine by National Science Teachers Association
National Gardening, monthly magazine by the National Gardening Association
Ranger Rick's NatureScope by the National Wildlife Federation

Teacher Resource

Thematic Unit Apples by Mary Ellen Sterling