Lesson Plan Outlines with Eric Litwin Books


● Groovy Joe: Ice Cream and Dinosaurs (also available in Spanish)
  ○ I Like: This song is a great introduction to foods. You can easily sing it without the CD, and the children can name their own favorite foods. Make sure to include ice cream! If you have a stretchy band, that can add to the excitement
  ○ We are Monsters: Sing this song, but change “monsters” to dinosaurs.
  ○ Read-aloud: Over the course of multiple readings:
    ■ Verbal expression (dynamics, emotions, repeated phrases)
    ■ Musical expression (singing the refrain)
    ■ Physical expression (dancing, stomping)
    ■ Vocabulary (bib, stomped, glared, burst, huge, smashed, size comparison)
    ■ Concepts of print (size of text, font). Change the volume of “roar” to match the size of the text, and the size of the dinosaur.
    ■ Rhyming words
    ■ Rhythm patterns (echoing, creating) If you have drums, the children can make the sounds of the dinosaurs (stomping, etc, and then later use them to echo rhythm patterns).
    ■ Create sound effects, movements or even a new version with different food or dinosaurs!
  ○ Groovy Dance: Show us your dance moves!
  ○ This Old Man: In this song, we give a dog a bone. What else could we give a bone? If you have rhythm sticks, this works well with something to tap.
  ○ Tyrannosaurus: This song is in 5/4, which leads to an unbalanced feeling when stomping. Try it!
  ○ Dance, Freeze, Melt!: Great practice for self-regulation.

● If You’re Groovy and You Know It - A great book to explore the natural world around us, and what makes us happy.
  ○ The Birds in the Trees (warming up our voices, and thinking of the beauty outside)
  ○ I Wish I Could Moo (Introduction to a groovy cow! With multiple singings, you can change the animals)
  ○ If You’re Happy and You Know It
  ○ If You’re Groovy and You Know It (with a stuffed animal)
  ○ Read Aloud: Over multiple readings:
    ■ Read for pleasure (great to read with a stuffed animal)
    ■ Vocabulary (what does “groovy” actually mean?)
    ■ Social Emotional (How do Groovy Joe’s actions make others feel?)
    ■ Actions (What makes us feel groovy?)
    ■ Music (compare to other versions of If You’re Happy and You Know It)
    ■ Physical expression (act out the song)
    ■ Community (What can you plant?, Where can you explore?)
    ■ Literature (What is your favorite book?)
    ■ Writing/Drawing:
      ● Create a book of things that make you feel groovy.
      ● Tell about where you explore.
      ● Write a new song or book.
      ● What is your favorite book, song, or place?
  ○ Groovy Dance
  ○ Walking Through the Park One Day: What do you see when you’re walking through the park?
  ○ One This Train: Where can the train take us?
  ○ See the Sun
  ○ When It’s Raining Outside

Created by Sarah Farrell       NM Inspire, 2019       Rio Rancho Public Schools       sarah.farrell@rrps.net
Groovy Joe: Disco Party Countdown (also available in Spanish)
- **I Like My Bass Guitar**: Warm up our voices, and practice playing our instruments!
- **The Number Dance**: Warm up our bodies, and practice echo-counting.
- **Read-Aloud**: Over multiple readings:
  - Language structure (knock knock jokes, writing an invitation)
  - Verbal expression (dynamics, emotions, repeated phrases)
  - Music (singing the refrain, instrument names, create your own band with homemade instruments)
  - Physical expression (dancing, how do different dogs move?)
  - Math (basic addition, doubling)
  - Concepts of print (size of text, font, speech bubbles)
  - Rhyming words
  - Create a new version with different animals
- **Disco Party Dance**
- **Hip Hop Body Rock**
- **One, Two, Three, Wheel**

We’re Going to Build a Rainbow! - Explore colors and instruments (note- book was briefly published as a free book by Scholastic - you might have a copy in your room)
- **We’re Going to Build a Rainbow** (song on [www.ericlitwin.com](http://www.ericlitwin.com))
- **Read Aloud**:
  - Movement: Use movement scarves, and as each color is named, that child dances, or plays an air instrument
  - Instruments: Learn the names of the instruments. Find youtube examples of each instrument.
  - Combine with a unit studying color - mixing, emotions and colors, etc.
  - Science: How are rainbows formed? Can you make a rainbow with a prism?
- **I Like My Bass Guitar**
- **I Like My Violin**
- **Baby Blue**
- **Rolling Ball**
- **Wade in the Water**

The Nut Family: Bedtime at the Nuthouse -
- **I’m a Nut** (use the refrain when reading the book, simply replace “I’m a nut” with “We’re nuts!”.
- **Strong Mama** - introduces a mama, with similar personality to Mama Nut
- **Wiggledy Woo** - The book has lots of wiggling!
- **Read Aloud** -
  - Concepts of Print: Speech and dream bubbles, size of text related to volume of voice, “zzz” meaning sleep.
  - Word Games - Explore the puns and word plays written into the pictures (The Nut Yorker, Astronuts, Nuttune)
  - Vocabulary- wiggle, giggle, howl, baboon,
  - Science- types of nuts mentioned (Hazel, Walnut, Praline)
  - Movement - act out the movements in the book.
  - Roleplay- the kids love being Mama, and scolding the nuts. Later, everyone can be marched into bed, and tucked in (with scarves, if available)
  - Lullabys - What is a lullaby, and which ones do children know?
- **The Nuts Lullaby**
- **If You’re Nutty and You Know It**

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- Lullabies: *Dreaming Child, Baby Blue, Twinkle Twinkle, etc.*

- **The Nut Family: Keep Rolling**
  - *Roll With the Waves* - in a circle, children roll several balls back and forth
  - *Here Comes the King* - “Awesome vs. Bummer” becomes “Oh yeah, vs Oh no” in the book.
  - *Funga Alafia* - Incorporates dogs and cats, which will appear in the book. (can add stretchy band)
  - Read Aloud -
    - Concepts of print - Speech bubbles, text size
    - Rhyming words - make a list of rhyming pairs
    - Community members - dogcatcher, zookeeper
    - Science - Why did they get bigger as the rolled? What happened when it rained?
    - Movement - If you were nut, how would you move? Compare with dog, cat and elephant.
  - *Keep Rolling Dance*
  - *It Started With an Elephant*
  - *Itsy Bitsy Spider* (explore sizes)
  - *Itty Bitty Baby*, by The Shenanigans (not a Learning Groove Song, but an all-time favorite!)

- **The Nut Family: Sing and Dance in Your Polka-Dot Pants**
  - *Come On and Sing With Me* (inviting everyone to join in, just like in the story)
  - *Come Dancing With Me*
  - *Here Comes the King* - “Awesome vs. Bummer” becomes “Oh yeah, vs Oh no” in the book.
  - Read Aloud
    - Predictions: Looking at the cover, who is the new white/silver-haired character?
    - Word Games - Explore the puns and word plays written into the pictures (Macarenut, carnutival, etc.)
    - Rhyming words - make a list of rhyming pairs
    - Vocabulary - tizzy, hullabloo
    - Movement and culture - types of dances mentioned in the song: Disco, The Strut, Macarena, Cha-Cha, Gangnan Style.
  - *Polka-Dot Pant Dance*
  - *Riding the Family Train*
  - *Your Own Dance Move*
  - *Everybody Loves a Good Time*
  - *Sing When the Spirit Says Sing*
  - *The Beat Bus* (practices rhythm, and the spelling of Mommy and Daddy)

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The Learning Groove online training:  
[https://the-learning-groove.teachable.com](https://the-learning-groove.teachable.com) or [www.thelearninggroove.com](http://www.thelearninggroove.com)

Going live soon! (Probably mid-June)