Interactive Spaces: Mushroom in the Rain

**Guidelines.** There may be more than 1 activity or sign under each skill area. Signs should be brief, but explain what to do and why it’s important.

**SKILL AREA – **TALK, TALK, TALK

1. **Activity** – HOW TALL ARE YOU?
   - Sign(s). (with toucan graphic)
     - Measure your height in mushrooms! How many mushrooms tall are you?
     *The more words children know and hear, the easier it will be for them to learn to read.*
   - Supplies:
     - Mushroom Measuring Pictures
SKILL AREA – **LOOK FOR LETTERS EVERYWHERE**

1. **Activity** – MUSHROOM HUNT
   - Sign(s): (with peacock graphic)
   - Mushroom Hunt

   Use a magnifying glass to find pictures of mushrooms and the letter M hidden around the library.

   *The letters M is among the first letters children recognize. It is necessary to know the similarities and differences in letters before learning to read.*

   - Supplies:
   - Magnifying glasses
   - Pictures of mushrooms and the letter M placed around the room, scavenger hunt style.

SKILL AREA – **NOTICE PRINT ALL AROUND**

1. **Activity** – CAST YOUR VOTE
   - Do you like mushrooms and how about rainy days? Have you seen a bunny, a mouse, a fox, an ant before?
   - Sign(s): (with kangaroo graphic)
   - Cast your vote.

   *Write your name or draw a picture on a sticky note, put it in the correct column. It is important for your child to see that print is used in a variety of ways.*

   - Have you ever eaten a mushroom?
   - Supplies:
   - Sticky notes; crayons; wall space with YES and NO column

SKILL AREA – **TELL STORIES ABOUT EVERYTHING**

1. **Activity** – SIZE SEQUENCING
   - Sign(s): (with turtle graphic)
   - What Happens to a Mushroom in the Rain?

   Put the mushroom in order by size or sort them by texture.

   *Sequencing activities help children recognize how one thing leads to another. Reading comprehension relies on this ability.*

   - Supplies:
   - Mushrooms of assorted sizes and textures to use on a magnetic surface

2. **Activity** – RETELL THE STORY
• Sign(s) (with turtle graphic)
  Retell and act out with the puppets and umbrella the story of *Mushroom in the Rain*
  - Ask questions like:
  Which animals hide under the mushroom?
  Do you think all the animals will fit?
  Why didn’t they let the fox under the mushroom?
  *Using open-ended questions engages children in storytelling helping them with vocabulary and narrative skills. Pretend play is the way young kids master symbolic representation, which soon becomes necessary for all academic coursework.*
• Supplies:
  - Animal Puppets
  - Umbrella (Used as Mushroom)

SKILL AREA – **TAKE TIME TO RYHME**

1. **Activity** – FIND THE “oo” SOUND
   • Signs (with goat graphic)
   - Find the objects that have the “oo” sound
   *The ability to hear that words are made up of smaller sounds is integral to learning to read.*
   - Words that have the “oo” sound sort into the basket *(provided by you.)*
   • Supplies:
   - Cards with pictures of items that have the “oo” sound (broom, room, etc.) and that don’t have the sound. Space to sort cards.

2. **Activity** – DISTINGUISHING SOUNDS
   • Signs
   - Make music by tapping the blocks
   *Listening to and singing songs helps children take words apart and put them together - a necessary part of sounding out words.*
   • Supplies
   - 8 Note Resonator Bell
**MUSHROOM IN THE RAIN**

**EARLY LITERACY KIT CONTENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contents</th>
<th>Returned</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 Small Magnifying Glasses <em>(Black)</em></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Large Magnifying Glass</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assorted letter “M’s” and Mushroom pictures to hide around the room <em>(In binder)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Starter set of post-its and crayons <em>(8 Post-It Pads and 1 Melissa and Doug Crayon Set)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>28 Magnetize Mushrooms for Sorting <em>(Various size, shape and textures)</em></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Animal Plush/Puppets <em>(Fox, Bunny, Butterfly, Mouse, Frog, Sparrow and Ant)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mushroom Umbrella <em>(For use with Retell the Story)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Picture cards of items that Have/Don’t Have the “oo” sound <em>(In binder)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>8 Note Resonator Bells w/Green Case <em>(For Use with Distinguishing Sounds)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Hardback Copy of <em>Mushroom in the Rain</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Paperback Copy of <em>Mushroom in the Rain</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Disinfecting Wipes</td>
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Please return the kit contents as you received them and wipe down all items with the sanitized wipes provided. We will replenish any perishable items.