

The
Early Years Count
Literacy
Connection



This Beach Is Loud!

Written and illustrated by
Samantha Cotterill

Preschool edition

Overview of Book

A little boy can't wait to go to the beach with his dad. Finally, it's Beach Day! What happens when the boy finds out how LOUD the beach is and how HOT and STICKY the sand is? Will dad help his son remember how to keep from being overwhelmed?

Genre: Realistic Fiction

Vocabulary

Books are a rich source of words new to children. Here are some from *This Beach is Loud!* to introduce in your classroom:

beach	scratchy
busy	sticky
bumpy	moat
various sound effects terms	

Each time you read the book, choose 2 or 3 words to highlight.

Use age-appropriate definitions and/or the illustrations to help children gain an understanding of each word's meaning.

Use these new words throughout the day, reminding the children, "That's a word from our story!"

Connecting with the HighScope Curriculum

COR Advantage 1.5

Approaches to Learning
Item A
(Initiative and planning)

Social and Emotional
Development
Item D
(Emotions)

Science & Technology
Item DD
(Natural and physical world)

Social Studies
Item FF
(Knowledge of self and others)

Reading Tips

Read this book with all the emotions the boy and the father in the story are showing. For the little boy, excitement and anticipation give way to surprise, dismay and anxiety. Finally, he is relieved. The dad is always calm and reassuring.

Have the children tap their fingers to help the boy calm down and be able to enjoy the beach. Ask questions like, "What is he hearing?" and "What is so loud?"

Three readings are recommended to familiarize children with the story. Each reading provides an opportunity to introduce new vocabulary words, pose open-ended questions, and engage children in activities that make the story "come alive."

Throughout the Routine

Refer to the book throughout the day and use new vocabulary words in meaningful ways. Active engagement with the story helps the content come alive.

Create a sound effects matching game for **Small Group Time**. Use objects in cans for the children to shake, then find another that matches in sound.

Play "Move like this" as part of **Large Group Time**. Play examples of different sounds for the children to listen to, then have them move in whatever way the sound inspires.

Begin an on-going list at **Greeting** of sounds the children have discovered that they like or do not like. Talk about why.

Around the Room

Highlight the book's content and build on the children's excitement in a variety of locations.

Have dry and wet sand available in the **Sand & Water Area**. Add ocean animals and sand toys for castle building.

Add crinkly, sticky and other sensory materials to the **Art Area** for children to create with.

Put beach towels, beach balls and other beach related props in the **House Area** to encourage pretend play.

Place other "sound" books in the **Book Area**, such as Deborah Underwood's *The Quiet Book* and *The Loud Book!*

Open-ended Questions

Enhance active engagement and early critical thinking skills by asking open-ended questions. These questions encourage children to explain why or how things happen, make predictions, or brainstorm possibilities rather than give one "right" answer.

Here are some questions you might ask for *This Beach Is Loud!*:

How does sand get into boots, shoes and bathing suits?

Why does sand at the beach get so hot?

What is your favorite thing to do on the beach or in sand?

What sounds do you like? (or don't you like?) Why?

For more information on how to use books and stories with children to enhance your curriculum, contact
The Family Connection:

website—
www.famconn.org

Facebook—
@famconnsjc

phone—
574-237-9740

@ Home

Since many of the children in our county will have this book at home, use it as a way to further the home-school connection. In your daily contact—in person or by text, email or other notes home—encourage families to share *This Beach Is Loud!* with their child. Here's a sample message you can send:

The children are learning about sounds and what sounds may be pleasant or unpleasant. We are talking about how some people like certain sounds while other people don't like certain sounds. While reading the book, "This Beach is Loud!" with your child, notice all the different types of sounds the little boy in the story hears. Suggest to your child that you both close your eyes and listen to the sounds around you. Ask questions like, "What do you hear?" and, "What do you think made that sound?" Share your own impressions of how some sounds might make you feel.