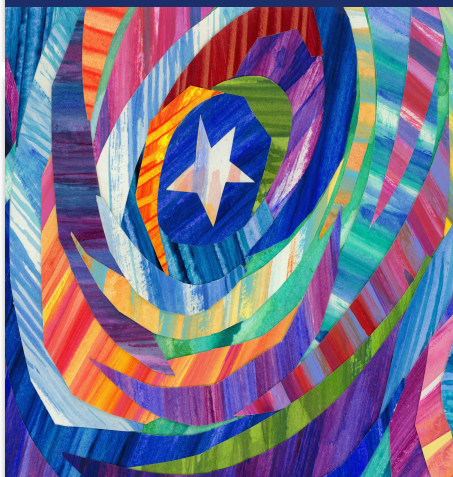


The Early Years Count Literacy Connection



Exactly As Planned

Written and illustrated by
Tao Nyeu

Preschool edition

Overview of Book

Moose and Fox are friends and when Fox invites Moose to tea, the story takes a turn. See the two friends' perspectives on how they eventually get together. This is truly a book with 2 stories that meet in the middle! How will it end?

Genre: Picture

Vocabulary

Books are a rich source of words new to children. Here are some words from *Exactly As Planned* to introduce in your classroom:

unravel	client
gather	dye
fret	determined

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

Approaches To Learning
Item A (*Initiative and planning*)

Social And Emotional
Development
Item D (*Emotions*)

Language, Literacy and
Communication Item Q
(*Book enjoyment and knowledge*)

Creative Arts
Item X (*Art*)
Item AA (*Pretend play*)

Reading Tips

Have fun showing the children this 2-sided story book. Explain that you will be reading 2 stories today and they both meet in the middle of the book. Let them know that the story is from 2 different points of view. Read either one first, then flip the story to read the other. Then ask, "What is point-of-view? Whose story is the right story?" After children share, ask, "Can both be the right story?" Talk with the group about friendship- and point out how Fox and Moose behaved because of their friendship.

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.

Have playdough, small aluminum pie pans and cookie cutters at **Small Group Time**. Encourage the children to make yummy sweets. Pretend with the children they are at a tea party and encourage exchanging and sharing the “treats”.

Use a ball of yarn at **Greeting Time**. Each child says hello and tosses it to a peer. Eventually, all are connected. Go around several times.

Around the Room

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

Add yard skeins for children to explore and create with in the **Art Area**.

Add tea sets and place settings in the **House Area**. Encourage children to act out the story and have a tea party.

Add more Imagination Library books about friendship to the **Book Area**. For example, “Terra and Bella” by Carol Buckley, “Bear and Bird Explore the Seashore” by Jonny Lambert and “The Perfect Present” by Tony Buzzeo.

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 *Exactly As Planned*:

Who would you invite over for a tea party? Why is that?

Fox had to change plans because the crow flew off with the brownies. When have you had to change plans?

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 *Exactly As Planned* with their child. Here’s a sample message you can send:

Have fun reading both stories in this one book. Ask your child which story to read first, and talk about how that main character is behaving and why. “Why is Fox so upset?” Notice the yarn in both stories, and follow the yarn trail to help see what really happened, and how many characters benefit from Fox and Moose’s friendship. Ask questions like, “Who helped?” and, “How did their help make for a tea party that went exactly as planned?” Have conversations with your child about how a change in plans, while initially being disappointing, may actually work out for the best for everyone. Share a story when that happened and ask your child if they have felt this way.