

The Little Red Hen (Makes A Pizza)

Retold by Philemon Sturgess

Literacy and Extension Ideas

Compiled by:

**Bright From The Start: Georgia's Department of
Early Care and Learning**



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About the Book: A hungry hen decides she is in the mood to make a pizza. The Little Red Hen asks her friends for help in making the pizza. Her friends are busy and decline to help until the very end when they smell the pizza baking. Then, the friends want to help eat the pizza and then help clean up!

Before Reading The Book: This book introduces many new concepts and vocabulary words to pre-k children. Before introducing the book to the children, collect as many of the real things that are mentioned in the story as possible.

Pans: bread, cake, muffin, frying, bundt, tube, round, flat, pizza

Tools: pizza slicer, cheese grater, rolling pin, measuring cup and spoons

Food: (bring empty containers and cans or the real thing and let children taste and smell)

Beans and Rice: garbanzo beans, black beans, rice pilaf

Sugar and Spices: sugar, brown sugar, nutmeg, cinnamon, mustard seed, oregano

Jars of Jam: boysenberry jam, raspberry jam, gooseberry jam, honey

Pickled Egg Plant

Flour, salt, oil

Cheese: cream cheese, blue cheese, string cheese, Swiss cheese, mozzarella cheese

Pizza Toppings: pepperoni, olives, mushrooms, onions, garlic, anchovies

Chickweed Tea

Other Concepts you will need to introduce and talk about: hardware store, supermarket, delicatessen, and kneading.

It has been suggested that you should read the book through at least one time before introducing or expanding on any new concepts. After the above items are introduced, it would be great to place the items in your learning areas so the children can more freely explore the objects and empty food containers that you may have brought. Be sure to ask parents and grandparents for help in collecting these items you may not have.

Changes you can make to your learning areas:

Writing Center: Write the new vocabulary words found in this book on chart paper, sentence strips or index cards along with a simple drawing (or photocopy or magazine picture) and place in your writing center! Also place pizzeria menus, grocery sale papers, ticket books and grocery list paper.



House Area: This is also an excellent place to add pizzeria menus, grocery sale papers, ticket books and grocery list paper. Also add any of the above pots and pans, foods and containers you might have found. Add aprons, empty pizza boxes, mixing utensils, cash register, grocery buggy, grocery items, checkered tablecloths to your table, salt and pepper shakers, Parmesan cheese shaker, plates and silverware, napkins, play money, chef hats, hot pads, etc. Make signs to have in your house center about a pizzeria, restaurant, supermarket, hardware store or delicatessen. This would be a great group project for your children to help with.

Art Area: Encourage the children to make play dough pizzas. Put pizza cutters in with the play dough as well as pizza pans for the children to work on. Yarn could symbolize cheese and you could add construction paper cutouts of mushrooms, pepperoni's, etc. Also add collage materials that could represent pizza toppings and paper plates.

Add pizza crust cutout shapes or donated ones from a pizza place near the easel. Encourage children to paint their own pizza creations.

Flannel Board: Cut out felt pizza pieces and encourage children to build a pizza. You can add felt numbers and have children count pepperoni, mushrooms, etc. You can also make your own version of the story using pylon (interfacing material - you can find at Wal-Mart or a fabric store) and tracing the story characters from the book. Use permanent markers to color on the pylon or interfacing material.

Math/Manipulative:

Decorate a round cardboard cutout to look like a pizza. Cut it into puzzle pieces and store in an empty pizza box.

Build a pizza: Cut a supply of pizza toppings from laminated construction paper, craft foam, or felt. You can make the crusts from donated pizza circles, poster board, etc. and the sauce from red construction paper circles. Have the children practice their sequencing skills by following sequence cards with pictures of the toppings in different orders. Order up! Let the child choose an order and make a pizza.

Pizza Patterns: Glue together several pizza crusts and sauce cutouts. Use a ruler and a thick black marker to divide each pizza into an even number of slices. On a pizza, glue toppings to the slices in an alternating pattern (three pepperonis, two black olives). Use your own ideas and create as many as you like! Make sure each pizza contains different toppings and then laminate the pizzas. Cut apart the slices. Store the slices in a pizza box in the center and let the child assemble his own patterned pizza.

Top the Pizza: To make one game, glue together a large pizza crust cutout and sauce cutout. Use a dark marker to trace a milk jug cap onto the sauce cutout a number of times. Collect as many pairs of matching stickers and lids as you traced circles. Then put one sticker in each pair on a lid and the other inside a circle on the pizza. A child or pair of children arrange the lids on the pizza by matching the stickers.



Sorting: Store a lot of pizza topping cutouts in a large mixing bowl with several smaller bowls (one for each different type of topping). Have children sort the toppings into the smaller bowls.

Cooking Experiences:

Individual Pizza: One English muffin half for each student, pizza sauce, mozzarella cheese, pepperoni, mushrooms, olives and anything else you desire! Let children spread the pizza sauce on the pizza, sprinkle with cheese, add toppings and bake at 350 degrees for 10-15 minutes each.

Sweet pizza: This can be used if you aren't able to bake in your room or cafeteria or kitchen in your center. One sugar cookie for each child, red icing, candy toppings.

Large Group Ideas:

Pizza Pie: Graph your class like a pizza. Graph height, hair color, eye color, etc. The possibilities are endless.

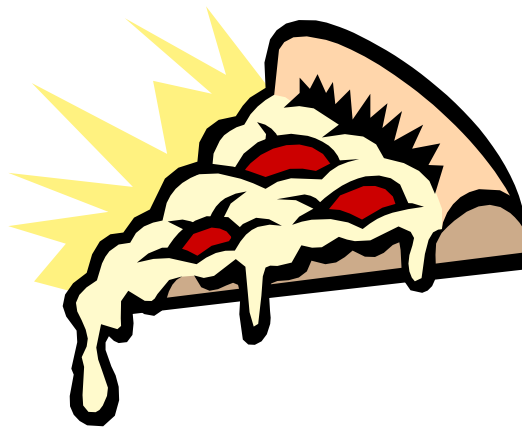
Discussion topics: Talk about being a good friend and what the friends did in the story. Read aloud the story, The Little Red Hen by Lucinda McQueen and have children compare and contrast the two stories. Create a chart to show the conclusions.

Role Play the story: Create headbands for the characters, add a few props and let them go!

Continue discussions about the tools, pans and items you introduced at the beginning of the story.

Outside Ideas:

Pizza Box Shuffle: Cut holes in the top of two pizza boxes large enough for your children to put their feet in. Have them do a relay shuffling across the grass!



Songs/Rhymes/Fingerplays:

Pizza Shop

Down around the corner in the pizza shop
There were lots of pieces of pizza with pepperoni on top
Along came (child's name) all alone
She (or he) bought one that had (# of pepperonis) pepperoni
And took it home

Note: You can do this with a pizza drawing (or felt board) removing a piece of pizza with the specified number of pepperonis with each verse.

Pizza and Pop

Pizza and Pop. Pizza and Pop.
When I get started I just can't stop
The smell is delicious, the taste extra yummy,
I love it most when it gets to my tummy...yummy!

Scouts Pizza Song

Eat-a-lot-a-Eat-a-lot-a-Eat-a-lot-a pizza
Oh no don't drop the pizza
If you drop the pizza nobody eat-za
Oh no don't drop the pizza.

Wish I Were A Pizza

I wish I were a (type) pizza,
That is what I'd truly like to be
For if I were a (type) pizza,
Everyone would be in love with me.

Pizza Letter Play

I like to eat eat eat
Pepperoni pizza
I like to eat eat eat
Pepperoni pizza

Note: for additional verses replace all of the "e's" with a new letter.

Pizza Hut

Pizza Hut (make a circle with your arms),
Pizza Hut (make a circle with your arms),
Kentucky Fried Chicken (Do the chicken dance),
And a Pizza Hut (make a circle with your arms),
McDonald's (make golden arches with your finger)
McDonald's (make golden arches with your finger)



Kentucky Fried Chicken (do chicken dance),
And a Pizza Hut (make a circle with your arms).

Pizza, Cheese Pizza

(chanted to the tune of Peanut Butter and Jelly)

First you take the dough and you roll it.

You roll it. You roll it, roll it, roll it!

Pizza, cheese pizza! Yum, yum!

Pizza, cheese pizza! Yum, yum!

Then you take the sauce and you spread it.

You spread it. You spread it, spread it, spread it.

Pizza, cheese pizza! Yum, yum!

Pizza, cheese pizza! Yum, yum!

Then you take the cheese and you shake it.

You shake it. You shake it, shake it, shake it.

Pizza, cheese pizza! Yum, yum!

Pizza, cheese pizza! Yum, yum!

Then you take the pizza and you bake it.

You bake it. You bake it, bake it, bake it.

Eat the cheese pizza. It's done!

Eat the cheese pizza. Yum, yum!

Books:

Hold the Anchovies! By Shelley Rotner and Julia Pemberton Hellums

Pete's A Pizza by William Steig

"Hi, Pizza Man!" by Virginia Walter

The Little Red Hen by Lucinda McQueen

Add any other books and related literature about shopping, baking, pizza's, stores, etc.

For added fun cutout two large circles (one white and one red) from felt or vinyl and place on the floor of your reading area! The children serve as the toppings while they read!

Field Trip:

Take a class field trip to a pizzeria! Most places will let the children actually make a pizza and eat it!

