

Rabbit Unit

Virginia's Foundation Blocks for Early Learning: Comprehensive Standards for Four-Year Olds, 2007

These standards are beacon lights for my curriculum. I adapt them according to the ability of my students. I use them as goals to strive towards or as background building for my students' future learning. These goals are my focus, but they are not the only objectives being utilized by the following lessons. Language and social goals are incorporated into our classroom daily routines.

I. Virginia Foundation Blocks

- History and Social Science Foundation Block One: Similarities and Differences
- Scientific Investigation, Reasoning and Life Processes

1. Participate in activities and traditions associated with different cultural heritages
2. Identify basic properties of objects by direct observation
3. Describe objects using words

II. Concepts to be Taught:

1. Real Rabbits:

- a) Rabbits need food, water and a place to live
- b) Rabbit home in the wild is a warren (hole in the ground) or a hutch or cage if a pet rabbit
- c) Rabbits move by hopping
- d) Eat vegetables or plants
- e) Have sharp front teeth
- f) Their fur is soft (some are short haired and others have long fur)
- g) They can be many different colors and sizes
- h) The snowshoe Hare: is brown in summer and white in winter
- i) Some rabbits are tamed and can be good pets

2. Pretend or Storybook Rabbits

- a) Peter Rabbit
- b) Benjamin Bunny
- c) The Velveteen Rabbit
- e) The Easter Bunny
- d) Chocolate Bunny that one can eat

II. Concepts to be Taught:

3. Real Vs Pretend

- a). Toy stuffed rabbit Vs Real rabbit
- b) Storybook character Vs Real rabbit

III. Books To Be Read:

1. *Fluffy Bunnies* by Creative Child Press
2. *The Bunny Book* by Richard Scarry
3. *The Baby Bunny* by Margaret Hillert
4. *The Tale of Peter Rabbit* by Beatrix Potter
5. *The Tale of Benjamin Bunny* by Beatrix Potter
6. *Counting : A Bunnykins Book* published by Penguin Group, and illustrated by Colin Twinn
7. *Five Little Bunnies* by Linda Hayward
8. *Little Cottontail* by Carl Memling
9. *Bunny Numbers* by Dick McCue
10. *Three Little Bunnies* by David Mennuel Books (a finger puppet book)
11. *Busy Bunnies: A Read and Touch Book* by Lisa Mc Cue
12. *The Velveteen Rabbit* by Margrery Williams

Teacher Made Books:

- Rabbit Fact Book By T. Williams
- Jelly Bean Countdown put into book format by T. Williams
- We Are Going on An Egg Hunt :source unknown

IV. Activities:

1. **Rabbit Books:** Mailbox has 2 books about real rabbits (see activities)
2. **Soft Rabbit:** Take a paper outline of a rabbit and add cotton ball or pillow stuffing
3. **Paper Plate Rabbit:** Add ears and facial features (of eyes, nose, mouth and whiskers
4. **Paper Plate Rabbit 2:** fold paper plate in half. add ears, button eyes and paper whiskers, and a cotton ball tail
5. **Toy Rabbit Picnic:** Each person brings in a toy rabbit or teacher have enough for each child to play with and eat things a rabbit would enjoy (carrots, salad, eat a fruit salad)

IV. Activities:

6. **Toy Rabbit Contest:** Which is the biggest, oldest, smallest, cutest, etc. Each child's toy would win a paper ribbon

7. **Bunny puppets:** (from www.theactivityideaplace.com) supply each child with a paper lunch bag, pink paper, googly eyes, black markers, and pipe cleaners. Cut pink paper into ears, glue them to the bottom of bag. Draw nose and mouth. Add goggly eyes and pipe cleaner whiskers. If you don't have pipe cleaners. Cut out whiskers from construction paper

8. **Circle Bunnies:** Use circles to make a bunny, draw on face, add ears

V. Games:

1. **The Bunny Hop:** Tape laminated paper bunny paw prints on the floor Play the song, "Bunny Hop" and have the children hop like bunnies

2. **Bunny May I:** played like mother may I

3. **The Bunny Pokey:** see poem ; do the actions in poem

The Bunny Pokey by Betty Silkunas

You put your bunny ears in
You take your bunny ears out
You put your bunny ears in
And you shake them all about
You do the bunny pokey
And you hop your self around
That's what its all about!

That's what its all about!

You can make up more verses: nose, paws, tail

4. **Bunny Directions:** Place toy bunny on floor and have children do the following : tiptoe over, crawl, step over, gallop to, skip to, hop (one foot or both) jump over, etc.

5. **Pin the tail on the bunny:** Laminate a large paper bunny and place it at child's level. Gives them a large pompom or paper tail that has cotton balls glued on : Tie a blind fold or scarf over child's eyes and let them place the

tail on rabbit. Teacher marks the spot . The one who's closest wins a piece of candy.

VI. Poems, Finger plays and Songs

This Little Bunny

This little bunny has two pink eyes

This little is very wise

This little bunny is soft as silk

This little bunny is white as milk

This little bunny nibbles away at cabbages, carrots the live long day.

VI. Poems, Finger plays and Songs

My Rabbit

My rabbit has 2 big ears

And a funny little nose

He likes to nibble carrots And he hops where ever he goes

To the tune "Fere Jacques"

Bunny Rabbit, Bunny Rabbit

Bunny rabbit , bunny rabbit

Hop, hop, hop

Hop, hop, hop

Bunny Rabbit, Bunny Rabbit

Hop, hop, hop

More Songs:

Here Comes Peter Cottontail

Little Bunny Foo Foo

Cooking:

1. Make a bunny cake
2. Bunny shaped cookies
3. Cupcakes with jelly beans or sprinkles on top

4Spice Bunnies : make bunny shaped gingerbread cookies