Book 1: Hats

Curriculum Extension Activities

1. Have each child create a paper hat. Girls’ hats can be made out of paper plates, with yarn threaded on two sides to go under the chin. Boys’ hats can be created in the shape of an Abe Lincoln hat by making a cylinder out of black paper for the top. The bottom can be made out of black paper by cutting a large circle with a hole in the center. The cylinder is then slipped through the hole. Both hats can be decorated using scrap materials, sequins, glitter, beads, construction paper, flowers, etc. The children can then have a hat parade!
2. Using the hats created above, the children can sort them according to color, size, and shape. A bar graph can also vote on which hat is the funniest, the tallest, the most original, the wildest, etc.
3. Brainstorm a list of nouns with the short a sound. Have each child pick a word to draw. Then have the child write the word beneath the picture. Put the words in order, from the tallest to the shortest. The children could also arrange them in categories, such as animals, foods, names, etc.
4. Have the children create their own *Hats* book, following the language pattern of the text. On each page, the child draws first a cat, and then a rat, wearing a hat. Beneath the cat picture, he or she writes, “Fat Cat has a \_\_\_\_\_ hat. Beneath the rat picture, he or she writes, “Tat Rat has a \_\_\_\_\_ hat.”

**Short “a” words: fat, cat, has, ball, hat, tat, rat, bag, rag**

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