



OVERVIEW

Moonbeams increase their awareness of words and reading through Dr. Seuss books.

OBJECTIVES

To complete this emblem, Moonbeams need to listen to at least two of the books listed and complete the activities and devotions that go along with each book chosen.

WORD BANK

- Pattern
- Rhyme
- Opposites

DEVELOPMENTAL ASSETS SUPPORTED BY THE ACTIVITIES

- Play and Creative Activities
- Engagement in Learning Experiences
- Early Literacy
- Personal Power

BACKGROUND FOR LEADERS

OPTIONAL SPECIAL EVENT: Host a reading night. Have the children come dressed in their pajamas. Encourage everyone to bring a favorite blanket, pillow, stuffed animal or doll. Invite corps officers, parents, grandparents, family members, friends and local dignitaries to bring a favorite Dr. Seuss book to read with the children.



ONE FISH, TWO FISH, RED FISH, BLUE FISH

GROUP ACTIVITIES

Read *One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish* together. Ask the children:

- How many of you have gone fishing?
- What did you like?
- What did you catch?

CRAFT

FISH BOWL

SUPPLIES:

- Fish-shaped cutouts
- Red and blue finger paint or dot art painters
- Paper plates
- Construction paper
- Scissors
- Glue
- Glitter
- Stickers

Guide Moonbeams through these steps:

1. Paint fish shaped cutout with red and blue finger paint or dot art painters.

2. Make fish bowls from paper plates or construction paper.
3. Glue the red and blue fish onto fish bowls.
4. Decorate with paper plants, glitter and stickers.

SONGS & RHYMES

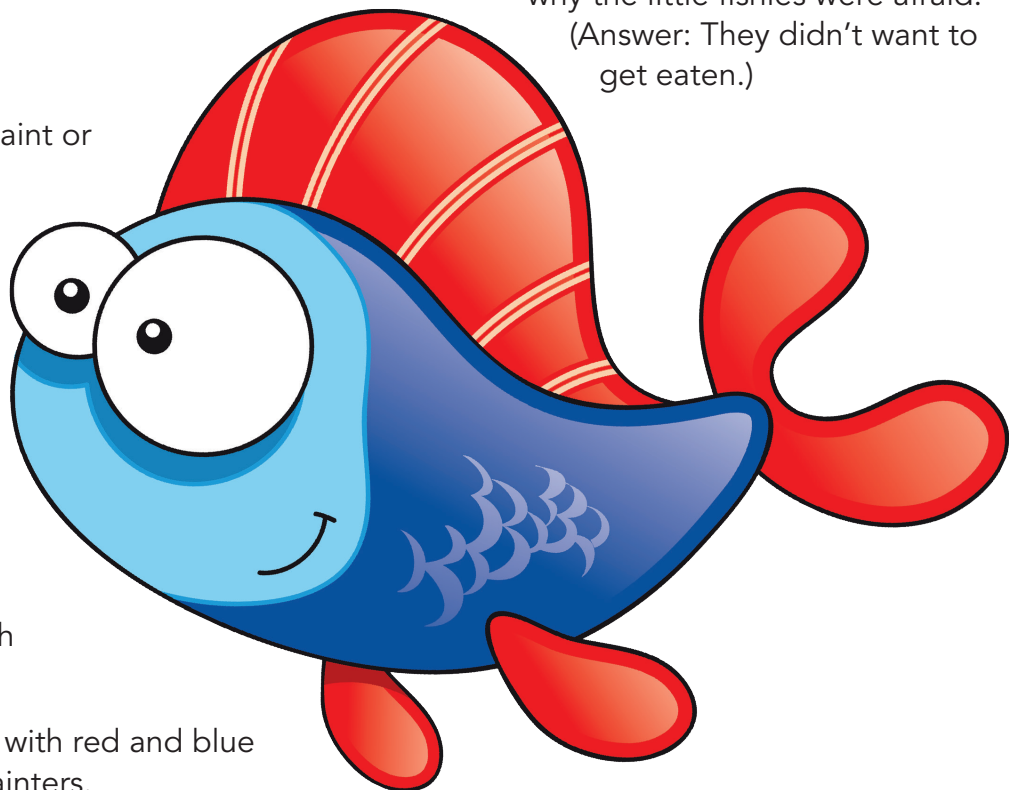
FISH SCHOOL

Play the song "Fish School" from the Walt Disney Records CD, *Finding Nemo: Ocean Favorites*.

THREE LITTLE FISHIES

Find the words and music to "Three Little Fishies" at: <http://bussongs.com/songs/3-little-fishies.php>.

Ask children to "swim" to the music. Sing the song "Three Little Fishies." Discuss why the little fishies were afraid. (Answer: They didn't want to get eaten.)



BABY SHARK

Find the words and music to "Baby Shark" at:
www.thelearningstation.com.

GAMES

COLOR PATTERNS

SUPPLIES:

- Color wheel or chart
- Colored loop cereal

Use a color wheel or chart to help children understand patterns.

- Red-blue-red-blue. Which color comes next? (Red. This is known as an AB pattern.)
- Red-red-blue-blue-red. Which color comes next? (Red. This is called an AABB pattern.)
- Use cereal to make patterns. Pass out a serving of Fruit Loops® cereal to each child. Ask children to divide cereal by colors and make patterns.

FISH POND

SUPPLIES:

- Red and blue foam or cardstock
- Scissors
- Large paperclips
- Small wading pool
- ½ - ¾ inch magnetic circle (craft store)
- Child's fishing pole with the magnet instead of a "hook"



Prior to the meeting cut fish shapes from foam or cardstock. Make the fish in the two different colors. Attach paper clips to the fish. Attach the magnet circle to the fishing pole instead of the "hook."

Put fish in an empty wading pool. (No water, please.) Have Moonbeams take turns catching fish using a magnetic fishing pole. First, have the children catch all the fish that are the same. Put the fish back. Then, have the children catch fish in a pattern (e.g. red-blue-red-blue).

SNACKS ✱

Serve one of the following:

- GoldFish® crackers
- Swedish Fish

BIBLE LESSON

Use a fish tale from the Bible or a Bible storybook. Here are some you could use:

"The Miraculous Catch" (Luke 5:1-11)

"The Little Boy Who Shared His Lunch"
(John 6:1-13)

"Jonah and the Big Fish" (Jonah 1:1-17
or *The Beginner's Bible*, "Jonah and
the Big Fish," p. 257)

Ask the children to act out the story with you.
Make the craft below.

SUPPLIES:

- Paper plates
- Scissors
- Glue (or tape or a stapler)
- Googly eyes (optional)
- Jonah
- Dot art painters, crayons, paint or markers
- Yarn or thread

Before class make a tiny Jonah for each Moonbeam. Cut pictures from a magazine or download a bible friend to print and color. (If you use the

downloaded Bible friend, reduce the size to 25% when photocopying. Visit Making Friends at: www.makingfriends.com/friends/f_spiritual.htm.)

Guide the Moonbeams through these steps:

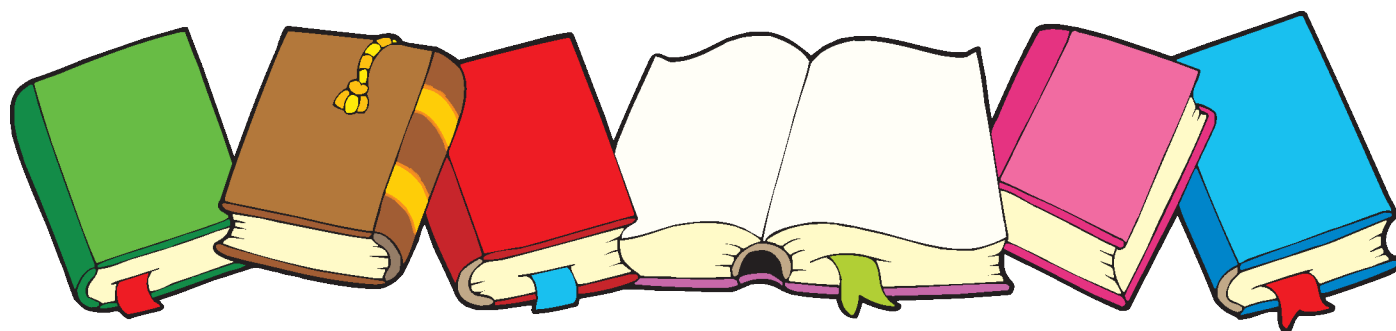
1. Cut a wedge out of a paper plate. The wedge will be the fish's tail. The hole that is created becomes the fish's mouth.
2. Glue, tape or staple the tail wedge to the end of the fish.
3. Use the dot art painters, crayons or markers to color in the fish scales, lips, and so on.
4. Glue a googly eye on the fish (or glue on two eyes if you want a flounder). If you don't have googly eyes use round stickers or draw an eye.
5. Hang the Jonah figure from the fish's mouth using a short piece of yarn or thread.

GREEN EGGS AND HAM

GROUP ACTIVITIES

SUPPLIES:

- Charts
- Stickers





Read *Green Eggs and Ham*. Discuss foods that the children dislike. Ask:

- **How many of you would like to eat beets, broccoli, or liver?**
- **Have any of you actually eaten those things or do you just think they sound yucky?**
- **What's the most disgusting food you can think of?**

Make a chart with two columns. Label one column "I LIKE" and the other column "I DO NOT LIKE."

Ask children if they think they'd like green eggs and ham. Using two different colors of circles, allow children to place a sticker on a chart to indicate their choices. Count how many would like them or not like them.

OPTIONAL: After actually making green eggs and ham, have the children make a second chart to see if their opinions have changed.

CRAFT

SAM-I-AM ART

OPTION 1

SUPPLIES:

- Paper
- Crayons

Tell the Moonbeams to draw a happy face if they think they'd like green eggs and ham or draw a sad face if they think they wouldn't like green eggs and ham.

OPTION 2

SUPPLIES:

- Wooden spoons
- Markers
- An 8" piece of ribbon for each child to use to make a bow tie

Make *Humpty Dumpty* puppets using wooden spoons.

OPTION 3

SUPPLIES:

- Miniature cars
- Finger paint paper, newsprint or cardstock
- Finger paints
- Pictures of Sam's car for each Moonbeam
- Glue

Using miniature toy cars like the one Sam drove in the book, have the Moonbeams "drive" through finger paint then make roads on paper. Glue pictures of Sam's car at one end, as if he is driving on the paper.

GAMES

Games to play for *Green Eggs and Ham*:

- Have an egg hunt using hard boiled eggs or plastic eggs.
- "Follow the Leader": pretend to drive silly cars, boats, trains like those in the book.
- "Egg Roll": Ask children to roll up into a ball and roll like a green egg.

SNACKS ✱

YOU

SUPPLIES:

- Disposable cups
- Green food coloring
- Paper plates
- Plastic Forks
- Eggs
- Diced ham
- Salt and pepper
- Pan
- Spatula or spoon for cooking and serving eggs

Guide the Moonbeams through these steps:

1. Give each child a disposable cup containing one drop of green food coloring.
2. Allow each child to crack their own egg into the cup and whip it up with a plastic fork.
3. Cook the eggs, scrambled, with diced ham, salt and pepper.

BIBLE LESSON

YOU CAN'T TELL BY LOOKING

Say: **When we first read about green eggs and ham, did you think they'd taste yucky? When we cooked them, I liked them very much. Did you like them?** (Allow children to respond.) **Most of us didn't think we'd like green eggs and ham. Why was that? I think it was because we didn't like the way they looked.**

Have you ever looked at someone and thought that you wouldn't like to play with them because you didn't like the way they looked or because they were different? (Allow children to respond.) **That reminds me of a Bible lesson about a boy named David. He was left out because he was too little.**

Say the following as written or in your own words: **God was going to choose a king to be the leader of His people. He sent a man named Samuel to visit a family that lived in Bethlehem and had eight sons. God told Samuel one of the sons would become the king. Samuel didn't know the family and he didn't know which son God would pick.**

The first son came in. He was the oldest. Samuel thought this must be the one, but God said, "NO, keep looking."

The second son came in. He was big and strong. Samuel thought this must be the one. But God said, "NO, keep looking."

The next son came in. He was very handsome. Samuel thought this must be the one, but God said, "NO, keep looking".

Seven times this happened. Each time Samuel thought this must be the one, but each time God said, "NO, keep looking."

Finally, Samuel came to the end of the line and asked, "Is this all of the sons?" The father told Samuel there was one more son. "But it couldn't be him. He's the youngest. He's out in the field taking care of sheep."

God told Samuel, "People look at the outside, but I look at the heart. Bring the boy in. He's the one."

People didn't think David looked like a king, but God didn't care about how he looked. God cared about his heart. So, the young boy who no one thought looked like a king, was chosen by God to do big things.

THE FOOT BOOK

GROUP ACTIVITIES

Read *The Foot Book*. Discuss ways our feet can help and ways they can harm.

Have the children walk toe-to-toe to measure objects in the room. How many "feet" long is the table? The shelf?

Use pictures of different shoes—cowboy boots, ballet slippers, etc. Ask the Moonbeams to identify who might wear them.

CRAFT

FOOT ART

- Use feet to "finger" paint.
- Color and decorate shoe patterns.
- Make animal tracks and follow them to a special place inside or outside.

SONGS & RHYMES

Sing "Be Careful Little Eyes What You See (...Feet Where You Go)."

The words can be found on *Great Big Praise for a Great Big God Volume 1* or at: www.childbible.com/song-12-be-careful-little-eyes.shtml.

GAMES

Games to play for *The Foot Book*:

- Look at everyone's shoes. Count the number of red shoes, white shoes, black shoes, etc.
- Have the Moonbeams take off their shoes and put them in a pile. Have a race to find the shoes and put them back on the right feet.
- Pick up toy cars with feet.
- Animal Feet—Have a relay race while wearing animal feet slippers.
- Play Twister®



SNACKS ✱

Serve the Moonbeams Fruit by the Foot®.

BIBLE LESSON

WALKING ON WATER

SCRIPTURE:

- Matthew 14:22-33

Gather children around the table and ask if they heard any opposites in *The Foot Book* story. Ask them to show you their left foot, right foot. High foot (lift foot), low foot (put foot on floor).

Say: **Does anyone know a Bible story about feet?** (Allow for responses.) **Today's Bible lesson is about a time when Jesus did something really special with His feet to show how powerful He is.**

Say the following as written or in your own words: **One evening after teaching all day, Jesus wanted to go to a quiet place by Himself to pray. Jesus told His friends to go ahead of Him across the lake, while He sent the crowd of people home.**

His friends went down to the lake and got into a boat to cross the lake. Let's pretend we are in a boat of our own. (Pretend to row a boat.) **Before long, a big wind came up. The waters got wild and rough.** (Have everyone rock their bodies back and forth.) **The men were having a hard time rowing. They were afraid.**

Jesus knew the boat was in trouble and wanted to go out to it, only He didn't have a boat to use. How could He get there? He used something we all have. He used His feet to walk on top of the water!

When the disciples saw Jesus walking on the water, they were even more afraid. Jesus said, **"Don't be afraid! It's me—Jesus!"** Peter was excited. He was amazed that Jesus could walk on the water. He wanted to try it too.

Peter said, **"Lord, if it's really you, tell me to come to you on the water."** Jesus said, **"Come on."** So Peter got out of the boat. He walked on the water toward Jesus! Did Peter and Jesus have **"up"** feet or **"down"** feet? (Allow for responses.)

But when Peter looked around at the storm and all the water, he became afraid and started to sink. Now Peter had "down" feet and very wet feet!

He cried out, **"Help, Lord, save me!"** Jesus caught him right away. He pulled Peter out of the water. Now Peter had **"up"** feet. **"Why did you become afraid and doubt, Peter?"** Jesus and Peter both climbed into the boat.

Ask: **What do you think happened to the storm? It calmed down and went away. What do you think the men in the boat were thinking?** (Allow for responses.) **They thought Jesus was amazing and very powerful! The friends all worshipped Jesus, saying, "Truly, You are the Son of God."**

Jesus is powerful. Don't you think He had amazing feet? He used His feet to walk on water so His disciples would know how powerful He is.

In the story, did Jesus have wet feet or dry feet? What about Peter? Peter had dry feet in the boat. When did they get wet? Jesus had enough power to help Peter when he was wet and afraid. Are there things that Jesus can help you to do? (Allow for responses.)

THE CAT IN THE HAT

GROUP ACTIVITIES

Read *The Cat in the Hat* book and discuss these questions with the Moonbeams:

- Who made the big mess?
- Have you ever had a really messy room?
- Who helped you to clean it up?
- Do you help your family? How do you help?

CRAFT

A CAT HAT

SUPPLIES:

- A *Cat Hat* handout from *Leaders' Resource Pages*
- Red and white paper cut into strips
- Glue

Glue red and white strips onto the handout, and glue a picture of a cat under the hat to make a cat in the hat.

HELPING HANDPRINTS

SUPPLIES:

- Paper plates
- Black marker
- Crayons
- Hole punch
- Ribbon

Trace each child's hand onto paper plates. Have children color their helping hands. Punch a hole at top of plate and thread a ribbon through it to make a hanger. Talk about ways Moonbeams can use their hands to help at home and at the corps. Ask them to name other places where they can help.

SONGS & RHYMES

IF YOU'RE A HELPER AND YOU KNOW IT

(To the tune of "If You're Happy and You Know It")

If you're a helper and you know it, clap your hands. (clap clap)

If you're a helper and you know it, clap your hands. (clap clap)

If you're helper and you know it, then your actions will surely show it.

If you're a helper and you know it, clap your hands. (clap clap)

I WILL BE A HELPER

(To the tune of "Ring Around the Rosie")

I will be a helper,

I will be a helper,

Ashes, Ashes

We all pick up!

INSTRUCTIONS:

Start in a circle. Have the Moonbeams hold hands and walk around as they sing. When they get to the last line, everyone runs to pick up one thing and put it away. Everyone then returns to the circle and starts the song again. Continue until all toys are in proper place.

GAMES

WHAT'S IN THE HAT?

Place various small items in a hat. Blindfold the children and let them guess what's in the hat.

WHO WEARS THE HAT?

Show various hats and have the children guess who might wear it.

BALANCE IT

Give Moonbeams a chance to pretend to be the Cat in the Hat. Let them try to balance a plate, cup, small toy, etc.

SNACKS ✱

SUPPLIES:

- Colored loop cereal
- Licorice shoestrings

Make pattern necklaces from cereal rings and string licorice.

BIBLE LESSON

NOTE: Children love to do grown-up things. Helping makes a child feel like they're an important part of the group. This lesson will help the Moonbeams learn they can help in many ways and that God is happy when we help each other.

PREPARATION: Put a 5 lb. bag of flour into a plastic grocery bag. Ask for a helper. Give the bag to the helper and ask them to hold it while you talk.

When child begins to struggle with the task, ask another child to help the first. While they're holding it, take a few minutes to choose another helper and then a fourth helper. Have each child hold one handle of the bag.

Ask the first child which was easier, holding the bag alone or with a helper? Ask all the Moonbeams: **Who helped in *The Cat in the Hat* story? Do you know any story in the Bible when someone was a helper?** (Read one of the following stories.)

- The Good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-35). Talk about ways the Samaritan helped the hurt man.
- Peter and John healed a lame man (Acts 3:1-11). Peter and John took time to help.
- The four friends (Mark 2:1-12). Friends helped a man who couldn't walk to Jesus.

Say: **How do you think God feels when we help others? Let's pray and thank God for the people who help us and ask Him to make us into good helpers, too.**

LEADERS' RESOURCES

To find activities, craft ideas and games to use with this emblem, check out: <http://pinterest.com/samoonbeams/reading-fun/>.