



The Napping House

By Audrey Wood

Things to get ready:

1. Blocks for stacking-size will depend on age of children
(If blocks are not available see attached sheet for ideas on making blocks for young children)
2. For dress up corner, collect pajamas and nightgowns in a variety of sizes.
3. PJ tops and bottoms that match placed in a laundry basket.

Getting the children ready to listen:

1. Sit children in a group in front of you so that they can all see the book.
2. Sing or recite the song/poem that you usually sing to get ready to listen to a story.

For Example:

(To the tune of “The Wheels on the Bus”)

The children in the class

Cross their legs

Cross their legs

Cross their legs

The children in the class

Cross their legs

When they get ready for a story

(etc.etc..adding your own verses to remind the students of appropriate story listening behavior)

Read-Aloud Guide

Before you read the book:

1. Show the cover and read the title and author.
2. Ask the students to comment on the cover picture.
What do you see? What is funny?
3. Mention that Granny has on a nightcap which people wore years ago to keep their heads warm.
4. Invite them to listen to find out who else might be in the napping house.

During reading:

1. See if the children can predict which animal will be the next one on the bed. (the next one begins to wake up in the picture before.)
2. Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations and notice patterns. (Nighttime colors slowly change to daytime colors. Also the perspective changes as more people are added to the bed.)

After reading:

1. Ask the children what their favorite part was and why. Return to some of the favorite pages.
2. If no mention is made of the color changing in the illustrations, turn the pages and have them notice how the light changes.
3. Examine the order of the people and creatures as they climbed on the bed for a nap. Does anyone see a pattern? (They go from largest to smallest.)

Extension Activities

Teach the children the following poem (You may want to assign parts to different students in the class so they can act it out):

Everyone's sleeping you see
They're awakened by a flea
The mouse jumps up,
Awakes the pup,
Come read the story with me.
Everyone's sleeping you see
They're awakened by the flea
The child's awake
For goodness sake
Come read the story with me.

Stack the blocks

Choose the size of the blocks depending on the students' age. Have children form a circle with the blocks in the middle. Ask the children how many blocks they think can be stacked before the tower will tumble. Record the predictions. One at a time the children enter the circle and add a block to the tower. After the tower falls, count the blocks and compare to the predictions. Ask children to predict again, and try the activity again. The children can also be divided into smaller groups with an adult in each group to supervise. After the game is played with the whole class, the blocks can be placed in a separate "stack the blocks" center so the game can be played during center time.

Other centers:

Add PJ's, nightgowns and a mat to the dress-up corner so children can pretend they are napping. It would be fun to add a doll, stuffed dog, mouse and small insect (flea) to the materials so they can re-enact the story. Have the book available for children to refer to.

Other centers continued:

Place several pairs of pajamas in a laundry basket and have children find the matching pairs.

Related Books:

A House Is a House For Me by Mary Ann Hoberman

The Princess and the Pea

The Village of Round and Square Houses by Ann Grifalconi

The Mitten by Jan Brett

The Napping House