

# Beyond the Book Activities

## *Goodnight Moon* By Margaret Wise Brown

Parents/Caregivers: Why do books matter? It all comes down to ABCs.

- **A child deserves to be prepared:** Educators emphasize that reading with your preschool child is one of the most important activities to prepare them for kindergarten.
- **Books are essential:** Studies by the National Assessment of Educational Progress organization have consistently found that the more reading material available in the home, the better students' reading levels are likely to be.
- **Cost of children not being prepared:** According to the Wilder Research, in Minnesota, the cost of children entering kindergarten unprepared is approximately \$113 million annually to school systems due to increased:
  - Student aid
  - Special education and grade repetition
  - Teacher related costs
  - Impact on school safety due to delinquent behavior

Utilize the following activities to take you and your child(ren) beyond the book you just read.

These activities were developed through the cooperation of United Way Success By 6, Marshall Lyon County Public Library and Marshall ECFE Little Cubs.

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### Supplies Needed

#### Activity 2

- Items from around the house
- Small bag or box (not transparent)

#### Activity 3

- Star stickers or white crayon
- White construction paper
- Black and blue crayons

#### Activity 4

- Paper

- Pen/pencil
- Scissors

#### Activity 5

- Scissors
- Colored construction paper

#### Activity 6

- Colored construction paper
- Various colored items from around the house
- Bag

**\*Read book before getting ready for each activity.**

## Activity 1: Hey Diddle Diddle Poem

**Supplies you'll need:** "Hey Diddle, Diddle" poem provided

### Directions:

- Post the "Hey Diddle, Diddle" poster.
- Read the title.
  - Has your child ever heard this poem?
  - If your child knows it, invite them to say it with you.
  - If your child doesn't know it, encourage them to listen carefully as you read it aloud to them.
- Ask your child questions:
  - What animals are in the poem?
  - What did the cow do?
  - What did the dish run away with?
  - Why did the dog laugh?



## **Activity 2: Goodnight**

**Supplies you'll need:** Small bag or box (not transparent), items from around the house

**Directions:**

- Collect objects from around the house; some that are in the story and some that are not (examples: mittens, brush, comb, ball, hat, crayons, etc.).
- Place the items in a box or bag hidden from your child's view.
- Have your child close their eyes and pick an object out of the bag.
- Have them identify the item and tell you what it is used for.
- Repeat.

## **Activity 3: Night Sky**

**Supplies you'll need:** White construction paper, black & blue crayons, star stickers or white crayon

**Directions:** Turn to the last page in the book and show your child how the stars look like they are glowing in the night sky.

- Ask your child to count the stars in the picture out loud.
- Give your child a piece of white construction paper.
- Have your child color as much of the paper as they want with black and blue crayons. This will be the night sky.
- Give your child star stickers (or a white crayon to draw stars with) and have them place as many as they would like on their sky.
- Have your child count how many stars they have in their sky, checking to make sure they are counting correctly.

## **Activity 4: Jumping Over the Moon**

**Supplies you'll need:** Moon cut out (provided), scissors, paper (or notecards)

**Directions:**

- Cut a piece of paper into eight sections (or use notecards).
- Number them 1-8.
- Show your child the picture of the cow jumping over the moon.
- Place the moon on the floor.
- Have your child pick a number card (1-8) and identify the number.
- Ask your child to jump over the moon that many times.

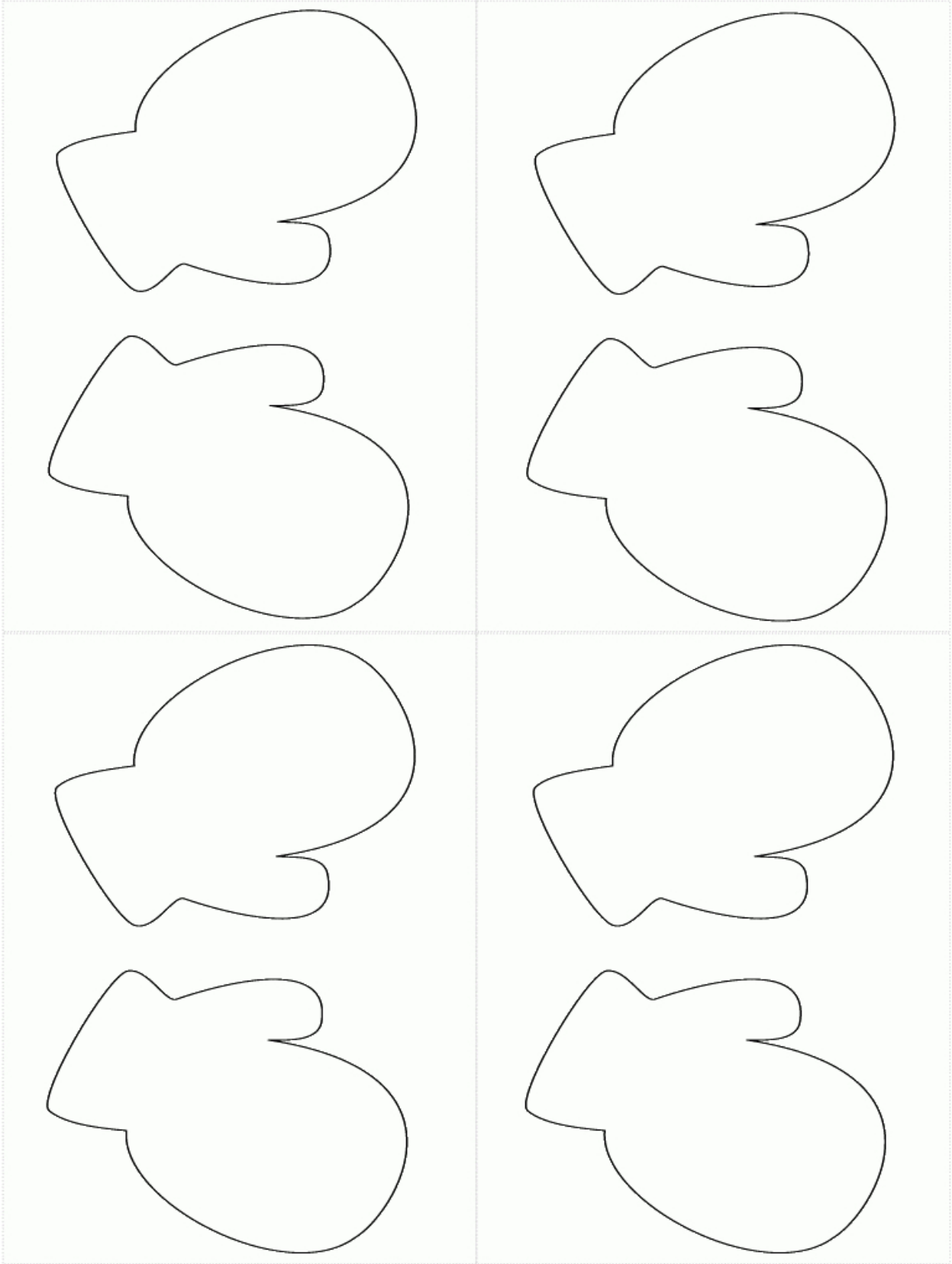


## **Activity 5: Mitten Match**

**Supplies you'll need:** Paper mittens outlines (provided), colored construction paper, scissors

### **Directions:**

- Print out the mitten template below on different colored paper.
- Cut out the mittens (or have your child do it if they can).
- Discuss how in the story, there is a pair of mittens.
- Ask your child what a “pair” means.
  - Explain “pairs” as they relate to mittens.
  - Discuss examples of things that come in “pairs” (socks, shoes, gloves, etc.)
- Scatter all the mittens on the floor or table.
- Instruct your child to find a matching pair.
- Discuss the concepts of “same” and “different.”



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## **Activity 6: Color Sort**

**Supplies you'll need:** Colored construction paper, small bag with variety of colored items inside.

**Directions:**

- Collect a variety of different colored objects from around your home (to match the colors of construction paper that you have).
- Put different colors of construction paper on the floor.
- Challenge your child to name the color of each piece of paper.
- Have your child come up and pull an object from the bag and place it on the corresponding colored paper.

## **Other Activity Ideas**

**\*Picture Walk** - Take your children on a picture walk through the book and challenge them to look carefully at the pictures and try to figure out what happens.

**\*Make Predictions** - Have your children make predictions about what events will happen in the story.