

Beyond the Book Activities

Mmm Cookies By Robert Munsch

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.

Supplies Needed

Activity 1

- Jar
- Brown paper
- Notecards

- Scissors
- Stickers (optional)
- Crayons

Activity 2

- Paper
- Circle shapes
- Markers

Activity 3

- Brown construction paper
- Scissors
- Notecards

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

Activity 1: Cookie Jar

Supplies you'll need: Cookie Jar (a plastic jar or box works well), cookies (brown/tan paper cut into circles work well) and number cards 1-10 (notecards with numbers written on them work great)

Directions:

- Review the number cards with your and place them number side up on the table or floor.
- Place several cookie cut outs in a wide mouth plastic jar and put the lid on loosely.
- Invite your child to open the jar and count the cookies inside.
- Challenge your child to find the number card that matches the number of cookies that were in the jar.

Activity 2: Cookies

Supplies you'll need: Circle shapes (used to trace), white paper, stickers (optional), crayons, markers, scissors

Directions:

- Show your child the cover of the book.
- Ask them to describe the big cookie.
- Explain to your child they are going to make their own paper cookies.
- Invite your child to trace a circle (or other shapes) on white paper.
- Let them decorate the “cookies” with markers, crayons, stickers, dots, etc.
- Have your child cut out their cookies.
- Have your child describe their cookies to you.

Activity 3: Star Sprinkles

Supplies you'll need: Number cards (1-10 written on notecards work great) and brown construction paper

Directions:

- Review number cards 1-10 with your child.
- Create a large “plain cookie” by tracing and cutting out a large circle on brown paper.
- Show your child the “plain cookie.”
- Then show your child the cover of the book.
- Discuss how that cookie has fun shaped sprinkles.
- Point out the star sprinkles on the cookie on the cover of the book.
- Have your child count the stars on the cookie.

- Have your child choose a number card and put that amount of star sprinkles on the “plain cookie.”
- Remove the star sprinkles and have the child choose a new number card and repeat the process with the new number.

