

A-Book-A-Week: Classroom Instruction

Officer Buckle and Gloria

Activity Card #1	Literacy Development Category: Language Development: Considering causes and Using the imperative form
Suggested Activity Order <i>Officer Buckle and Gloria, a Caldecott medal-winning book, supplies the perfect opportunity for young children to think about what has or will cause an accident. In this activity, children will consider accidents, and produce imperative sentences that might serve as Safety Tips.</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Begin today's lesson by pointing to the Caldecott medal on the book's cover. Remind children that we have looked at another Caldecott winner recently (The Snowy Day). Then, re-read the first page of the book, stressing the words "safety tips". Show children the safety tip Buckle is tacking to the wall (#77 - Never Stand on a Swivel Chair). Ask the children why we shouldn't stand on a swivel chair.2. Explain that Officer Buckle thought about things that would CAUSE accidents and then wrote safety tips that would help people avoid these situations.3. Show 1 of the 4 accident pictures. Ask the children what has happened (or is about to). Then ask the children what would prevent the accident.4. Guide the children in creating an imperative statement that begins either with <i>Never</i> or with <i>Always</i>.5. When you and the children have thought of an appropriately phrased safety tip, write it on the back of the accident picture.6. Make these pictures available at a station in the classroom, so that children can practice saying and "reading" the tip they created.	Materials Needed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Officer Buckle book<input type="checkbox"/> 4 accident pictures (found at the end of this file)

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Activity Card #2	Literacy Development Category: Lots of Links: Safety Around Us
Suggested Activity Order <i>In today's lesson, we'll use <u>Officer Buckle</u> to start us thinking about safety in the world around us.</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Show children the <u>Officer Buckle</u> book, and ask what Officer Buckle talked about with children (safety).2. Then, show the railroad crossing, yield, and pedestrian pictures noted in your materials needed section. Ask the children where they have seen signs such as these. Explain that some safety tips become signs to protect people.3. Explain that we are going to spend today thinking of safety tips for our classroom and our schoolyard.4. Begin your safety tour in your classroom. Ask children to point out things and places that could possibly be unsafe. Jot their comments down in your notebook.5. Continue your safety survey outside on the playground, repeating the procedure.6. Tell the children that we will continue our safety efforts tomorrow.	Materials Needed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> <u>Officer Buckle</u> book<input type="checkbox"/> X and Y pictures from the transportation alphabet<input type="checkbox"/> Sign picture from the <i>ine</i> picture set<input type="checkbox"/> Notebook to record children's comments

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Activity Card #3	Literacy Development Category: Acts of Writing: Safety Tips
Suggested Activity Order <i>In today's lesson, we are supporting children's understanding of the idea that print can capture words we want others to hear.</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Open <u>Officer Buckle</u> to the bright yellow two-page spreads at the beginning and ending of the book. Point to each star, and read the children the safety tip that appears in the star.2. Remind the children of your safety walk, and of the way that we wrote safety tips earlier in the week. Explain that we are making safety stars, just like in <u>Officer Buckle and Gloria</u>.3. From your notebook, read something the children noted the day before as being potentially unsafe. Have the children help you put this in the imperative form, using the <i>Always</i> or <i>Never</i> format from Activity #1.4. Record that statement at the top of the safety star.5. Continue this procedure until you have made one safety star for every child in the class.6. Post the safety stars around the classroom. During children's center time, allow children to illustrate the safety tips using watercolors and black crayon.	Materials Needed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> <u>Officer Buckle and Gloria</u> book<input type="checkbox"/> Star forms - use the form at the end of this file to make multiple copies<input type="checkbox"/> Notes from the safety walks

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Activity Card #4	Literacy Development Category: Authors and Illustrators: Meeting Peggy Rathmann
Suggested Activity Order <i>Peggy Rathmann is featured author/illustrator in the Webbing Into Literacy Program. The activities below are designed to help children think about Rathmann and her art.</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Show <u>Officer Buckle and Gloria</u>. Then, show them <u>Good Night, Gorilla</u> and explain that the same woman created both of these books. Show the children Rathmann's picture (see URL below) and remind them of her medal.2. Next, read the children what Rathmann says about how her different books have come to be created.3. Now, look at the pictures in <u>Officer Buckle and Gloria</u> and <u>Good Night, Gorilla</u>. Remind the children that we have talked about cartoon art previously. Help them particularly notice the expressions on Gloria's face when she and Officer Buckle are watching television and he discovers what she has been doing.4. You might want to do some experimentation with line and eyebrows. Draw faces on the board. Make straight eyebrows, eyebrows that slant up, eyebrows that slant down -- ask the children what kinds of emotions those faces are depicting. This will help them understand the importance of line, particularly in cartoons.5. End the session by making one of the snacks suggested by Peggy Rathmann (in the URL below).	Materials Needed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> <u>Officer Buckle and Gloria</u> book<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Good Night, Gorilla</u> book

Peggy has made her own web page to describe herself. You can get her picture at <http://www.peggyrathmann.com/peggyrathmann.html>

Peggy has made the most marvelous site to accompany her fabulous 10 Minutes Till Bedtime. At that site, she has some wonderfully clever recipes for snacks.
<http://www.hamstertours.com/snacks.html>



