

A-Book-A-Week: Classroom Instruction

I Know an Old Lady

Activity Card #1	Literacy Development Category: Lots of Links - Acting Out
Suggested Activity Order <i>I Know An Old Lady</i> is wonderful for acting out. Use the downloadable game for <i>I Know an Old Lady</i> to get puppets for your children's performance. <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Cut out the characters on the downloadable card.2. Staple the cutouts to a straw.3. Re-read the <i>I Know an Old Lady</i> book, reminding children how silly the song and story are.4. Hand the puppets to the children in your class.5. Wrap a blanket around one child's shoulder so he or she can be the Old Lady.6. As you and the children sing the "I Know an Old Lady" song, children holding the different puppets come to feed them to the Old Lady as their puppets names are called.	Materials Needed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> I Know an Old Lady_book<input type="checkbox"/> Downloadable game from website<input type="checkbox"/> Straws<input type="checkbox"/> Stapler<input type="checkbox"/> Small shawl or blanket to wrap around "Old Lady's" shoulders

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Activity Card #2	Literacy Development Category: Artist's Craft
Suggested Activity Order <p><i>G. Brian Karas is a featured illustrator in the <u>Webbing Into Literacy 101 Best Books</u>. He has a delightful web site at http://www.gbriankaras.com where you can find an activity from his book <u>The Windy Day</u> and an address to e-mail him!</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Re-read <u>I Know An Old Lady</u> to your students, then have them sing it with you.2. Explain that this is an old song, and that many different artists have decided to illustrate this song. Then, show them G. Brian Karas's name on the cover of the book.3. Tell children that Karas does illustrations like cartoons, meaning he shows things in a silly way.4. Show children the Karas cartoon, "Dog in Chair" and ask what is silly about it. http://www.halcyon.com/www3/artstock/Artists/KarasB/0035.html5. Then, look at each two-page spread, and ask the children to identify something that seems silly in the illustrations.6. Tell children that sometime they can be illustrators of songs just like G. Brian Karas.	Materials Needed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> "Dog In Chair"<input type="checkbox"/> I Know An Old Lady book

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Activity Card #3	Literacy Development Category: Language Development - Vocabulary
Suggested Activity Order <i>I Know An Old Lady is a wonderfully silly rhyming song in which the objects the Old Lady swallows become absurdly large. In today's lesson, children will practice the more literary syntactic construction "I know an old lady who..." while thinking of very large objects.</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Remind children that <u>I Know an Old Lady</u> is a silly rhyming song because no one could really swallow all the things that the Old Lady swallowed.2. Tell children that we're going to imagine silly, large things that no person could ever swallow.3. Help children brainstorm a list of things that are too large to ever be swallowed by a person. You can write these on the blackboard (showing children how we record, even though they won't be able to read).4. Then, one at a time, have the children stand and say, "I know an old lady who swallowed a ____" completing their sentences with the name of an object too large to be swallowed.	Materials Needed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Blackboard<input type="checkbox"/> chalk

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Activity Card #4	Literacy Development Category: Acts of Writing: Developing Print Awareness and Name Recognition
Suggested Activity Order <i>One of the first words most children learn to read is their name. In today's lesson, children will contribute to a class composition - "I Swallowed A..." Composing with the children's names will reinforce name recognition and allow them to see that their ideas can appear in a written form.</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Remind the children that, in this week's book, the Old Lady swallowed a fly. Explain that every time we eat, we swallow what we have chewed or drunk.2. Ask each child to think of something good that he or she has eaten or drunk in the past day.3. Tell children that they can contribute to the class composition by using their words in this way, "I swallowed a ____." Provide an example for the children in this way: <i>Last night, for my dessert, I had a chocolate cupcake. So, I would say, "I swallowed a chocolate cupcake."</i>4. Record your "I swallowed a...", and put your name at the end in parentheses. Then, call on children to offer their "I swallowed a..." sentences.5. Write each child's contribution, and put his or her name in parentheses at the end of the sentence.6. Re-read the composition to the children,7. Tell children that they can draw a picture of what they swallowed next to their own "I swallowed a..." sentences.	Materials Needed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Chart paper OR<input type="checkbox"/> Blackboard and chalk