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Dr. Seuss Fine Motor Development Club

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NEBRASKA HONORS PROGRAM
CLC EXPANDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITY CLUBS
INFORMATION SHEET

Name of Club: Dr. Seuss Fine Motor Development Club

Age/Grade Level: Pre-K to 1st grade

Number of Attendees: (ideal number) 8-15

Goal of the Club: (learning objectives/outcomes)

Promote fine motor development in young children by incorporating fun activities (crafts etc.) into curriculum. Examples include cutting, tracing, gluing etc.

Resources: (Information for club provided by)

Dr. Seuss' *The Cat in the Hat*; *There's a Wocket in my Pocket*; *Oh, the Places You'll Go*; *Horton Hears a Who*; *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*; *Bartholomew and the Oobleck*; *Ten Apples Up on Top*; *The Lorax*; *One Fish Two Fish*; *The Foot Book*; various Pinterest ideas, TherapyFunZone.net

Content Areas: (check all that apply)

- Arts (Visual, Music, Theater & Performance)
- Literacy
- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math)
- Social Studies
- Wellness (Physical Education, Health, Nutrition & Character Education)

Outputs or final products: (Does the club have a final product/project to showcase to community?)

No final product, however each week the kids will be able to bring home their craft.

Introducing your Club/Activities:

Well-known Dr. Seuss books introduce fun, related activities such as a craft or a challenge! These activities are designed to promote development by requiring them to use and improve their fine motor skills to perform the tasks.

General Directions:

Start each club by reading the book corresponding to the name of lesson plan. Then, start the activity and let the creativity flow!

Tips/Tricks:

Many of these lesson plans require a good deal of set-up and preparation, as well as quite a few supplies! Gathering supplies at least one day in advance is helpful so that you can make any necessary alterations to the lesson plan according to your available supplies.

LESSON PLAN WORKSHEET

(copy table as needed)

Lesson Activity Name: The Cat in the Hat

Length of Activity: 45 minutes

Supplies: Red and white construction paper, glue, cardstock hat stencil, paper plate, markers, googly eyes, pencils, glue, scissors, stapler

Directions:

Trace the shape of the Hat from the Cat in the Hat on large white construction paper. Rip small pieces of red construction paper (quarter coin-sized). Glue the small pieces in stripes onto the large white construction paper inside the traced shape of the hat. Cut out the shape of the hat. Draw the Cat in the Hat's face on paper plate (black border, draw nose, whiskers, mouth) and glue on googly eyes. Staple hat shape onto paper plate.

Conclusion of the activity:

Students developed fine motor skills by tracing, ripping small circles, gluing in a pattern, cutting, and drawing.

Parts of activity that worked:

Splitting the activity into stations – hat-making and face-making – increased productivity and efficiency. The tasks also gave a good variety of creative freedom and structure.

Parts of activity that did not work:

The younger students felt challenged by ripping the red paper and became frustrated.

LESSON PLAN WORKSHEET

(copy table as needed)

Lesson Activity Name: There's a Wocket in my Pocket

Length of Activity: 45 minutes

Supplies: Colored foam sheets, scissors, hole punch, yarn, glue, googly eyes, pom poms

Directions:

Station 1: Pick two colors of foam sheets. Draw a pocket shape on one sheet, cut out pocket. Punch holes in both sheets along the bottom and sides of pocket. Thread yarn through hole

punches and tie the ends together in the back. Decorate. Station 2: Cut out long piece of foam sheet (so that it will stick out of pocket). Make your own Wocket! Add googly eyes, hair etc.

Conclusion of the activity:

Students developed fine motor skills by cutting thick material, hole punching, threading, and gluing.

Parts of activity that worked:

Students enjoyed the silliness of making their Wocket and decorating their pocket.

Parts of activity that did not work:

Drawing a pocket shape was difficult to some students, which could have been made easier by having a pocket shape stencil made out of cardstock. Hole punching the thick material was difficult and took a long time, so we switched to poking holes through with pencils. This made it faster, however it became harder to control the shape and size of the holes. Some students struggled with poking holes far enough from the sides so that it didn't rip.

LESSON PLAN WORKSHEET

(copy table as needed)

Lesson Activity Name: Oh, the Places You'll Go

Length of Activity: 45 minutes

Supplies: Tissue paper (at least 3 different colors, cut into 2-inch squares), blue construction paper, white paper, Elmer's glue, markers, scissors, cardstock circle stencil and cardstock basket stencil

Directions:

Station 1: Make balloon. Trace circle onto top of white construction paper. Roll squares of tissue paper into balls, glue onto traced circle. Station 2: Trace basket shape on white construction paper. Write a goal on the basket. Cut out 2 strips to connect balloon to basket. Glue basket and connecting strips to blue construction paper.

Conclusion of the activity:

Students developed fine motor skills by writing, rolling, gluing, tracing, and cutting, and came up with meaningful, short-term goals for themselves.

Parts of activity that worked:

The students enjoyed decorating their hot air balloon and basket and were excited to come up with goals and share them with their friends!

Parts of activity that did not work:

Trace out the balloon and basket shape for each student to cut out in advance, as sharing the cardstock stencils took a long time.

LESSON PLAN WORKSHEET

(copy table as needed)

Lesson Activity Name:	Horton Hears a Who
Length of Activity:	45 minutes
Supplies:	Tissue paper cut into circles, hole punch, pipe cleaners, large white construction paper, large grey construction paper, pink construction paper of any size, glue, markers, scissors, tape

Directions:

Station 1: Make flower and elephant trunk. Take a stack of circle tissue paper and hole punch two holes. Thread pipe cleaner through punches, twist the ends and fluff the tissue paper to make into flower. Fan-fold long grey piece of paper. Wrap the end around flower stem and tape. Station 2: Elephant's face and ears. Cut large head, feet, and ear shapes from grey construction paper. Fold pink construction paper in half and cut 2 hearts. Glue head, feet, and grey ears onto large white construction paper, glue pink hearts onto grey ears. Draw eyes and toes onto elephant. Glue fan-folded trunk with flower onto elephant's face.

Conclusion of the activity:

Students developed fine motor skills by cutting, folding, gluing, and drawing.

Parts of activity that worked:

Students enjoyed fan-folding the elephants' trunks and drawing their elephants' faces. Having the stations helped to get both the flower part of the craft and the elephant part of the craft done in a timely manner.

Parts of activity that did not work:

Trace an elephant's head, trunk, and ear shapes onto each student's construction paper beforehand to allow time for the rest of the activity.

LESSON PLAN WORKSHEET

(copy table as needed)

Lesson Activity Name:	How the Grinch Stole Christmas Ornaments
Length of Activity:	45 minutes
Supplies:	Green pipe cleaners, silver/gold metallic pipe cleaners, popsicle sticks, hot glue/hot glue gun, mini pom pom balls, sequins, yarn

Directions:

Glue together three popsicle sticks to form a triangle. Wrap assortment of pipe cleaners around popsicle sticks. Glue on additional pom pom balls, sequins, etc. Add tassel to top to use to hang.

Conclusion of the activity:

Students practiced holding ornament in one hand while wrapping yarn and pipe cleaners around their "tree". This, along with picking up small sequins and pom-pom balls, developed their fine motor skills.

Parts of activity that worked:

Children enjoyed making ornaments that they could hang on their very own tree!

Parts of activity that did not work:

Different students had different skill levels, which contributed to different success rates in creation.

LESSON PLAN WORKSHEET

(copy table as needed)

Lesson Activity Name: Bartholomew and the Oobleck Slime

Length of Activity: 45 minutes

Supplies: Elmer's Glue, baking soda, green food coloring, contact lens solution (containing boric acid/sodium borate), plastic bowls

Directions:

Combine 1 cup of glue, 1 tps baking soda, and 3 drops of food coloring in plastic bowl. Mix well. Add 1 tsp contact lens solution, stir, and continue adding as needed. Mix until the slime does not cling to hands.

Conclusion of the activity:

Students strengthened their manipulation control through mixing and kneading their slime.

Parts of activity that worked:

Students had so much fun with creating and playing with their slime.

Parts of activity that did not work:

Slime can be messy- be sure to have proper clean up supplies in place!

LESSON PLAN WORKSHEET

(copy table as needed)

Lesson Activity Name: Ten Apples Up on Top

Length of Activity: 45 minutes

Supplies: Activity A: wooden paint sticks, clothes pins, glue sticks, scissors, laminated page of apple art (10 apples per page, each apple approx. 1 sq inch)
Activity B: red playdough

Directions:

Activity A: number apples 1-10, cut out apples from paper using scissors, glue each apple onto a clothespin, pinch clothespins and place them onto paint stick in order (1 at the bottom, 10 at the top)

Activity B: roll playdough into ten separate balls, balance balls (“apples”) on top of each other.

Conclusion of the activity:

Use of scissors, manipulation of playdough, and clothespin placement allowed for practice of fine motor skills within this activity.

Parts of activity that worked:

Students enjoyed the freedom associated with the playdough activity, as there were few instructions.

Parts of activity that did not work:

Laminated paper did not stick well to clothespin using glue stick.

LESSON PLAN WORKSHEET

(copy table as needed)

Lesson Activity Name: The Lorax

Length of Activity: 45 minutes

Supplies: White construction paper, pom pom balls, multi-colored tissue paper, scissors, Elmer’s Glue, tweezers, paper plates

Directions:

Have students trace a circle onto their white construction paper. Then, use tweezers to pick up pom pom balls, dip them in the glue, and place them on circle outline. After that, tear the tissue paper into small squares and use it to create a “trunk” for your pom pom ball tree.

Conclusion of the activity:

Using tweezers to grasp pom pom balls strengthened fine motor skills.

Parts of activity that worked:

Students enjoyed the novelty of using tweezers in their craft.

Parts of activity that did not work:

Activity did not take the full 45 minutes.

LESSON PLAN WORKSHEET

(copy table as needed)

Lesson Activity Name: One Fish Two Fish Letter Fishing

Length of Activity: 45 minutes

Supplies: Magnets, pipe cleaner, construction paper, fish clip art

Directions:

Print fish images onto construction paper. Label the fish A-Z. Use Pipe cleaners to shape into a “fishing pole” (braid multiple together, bend the end). Attach magnets to the end of the pipe cleaner and to each individual fish letter. Spread the letters around the room and have students use their “fishing pole” to pick up fish letters. After they collect 6 (or any number) have them use the letters they collected to spell a word. Repeat.

Conclusion of the activity:

Students practiced balance and control- two skills that are vital to fine motor development.

Parts of activity that worked:

The actual process of fishing for the letters.

Parts of activity that did not work:

Create the letters beforehand, as this was too time consuming.

LESSON PLAN WORKSHEET

(copy table as needed)

Lesson Activity Name: The Foot Book

Length of Activity:

45 minutes

Supplies:

8.5x11 felt or foam sheets, yarn/string, scissors, pens, hole punch

Directions:

Have students take off their shoe and trace it onto the felt paper. Cut out shoe shape and decorate! Use hole punch to create holes in paper. String yarn through the holes, and practice tying.

Conclusion of the activity:

Stringing the yarn through the holes, and practicing tying it both develop fine motor skills.

Parts of activity that worked:

Lacing and tying the shoe was a fun way to practice a fairly new skill.

Parts of activity that did not work:

Some students had yet to learn how to tie their shoes.
