Mother’s Day Activities

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Table of Contents
Mother’s Day
The Mother’s Day Mice—Literature Unit
Mother’s Day Coupon Book
Standing Picture Frame
Mother’s Day Bouquet
Mother’s Day Magnet
Mother’s Day Sculpture
Mother’s Day Card
“Feel Good” Jar

Introduction
The old saying “good things come in small packages” is an apt description of this holiday activity booklet. This book is packed with all types of projects and ideas for making Mother’s Day a special time. Teaching opportunities abound in these pages which include a literature-based teaching unit, creative art projects, and unique gifts that children can make for that special person in their lives.

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The Mother’s Day Mice

Author: Eve Bunting
Illustrator: Jan Brett
Publisher: Clarion Books, 1986
(CAN: Thomas Allen & Son; UK: Gollancz Services; AUS: Jackaranda Wiley)

Summary: In this fantasy adventure, three little mice leave their house to search for the perfect gift for Mother on Mother’s Day.

Related Holiday: Mother’s Day is celebrated as a holiday in the United States and Canada to honor mothers and is held on the second Sunday in May.


Related Songs: “It’s Your Special Day” by Sue Brown, “Happy Mother’s Day to You” by Saundra Winnett and “Mother’s Day Song” by Barbara Fletcher, Holiday Piggyback Songs (Warren Publishing House, 1988)

Additional Literature: The Tale of Peter Rabbit by Beatrix Potter (Warne, 1987); Mommies at Work by Eve Merriam (Simon & Schuster, 1989)

Connecting Activities:
Before you read this book to your class, be sensitive to the feelings of your students whose mothers may no longer be in the home.

S As you are reading this book to your class, stop at the point when Little Mouse agrees to forget about the honeysuckle. Encourage your students to predict what ideas he has.

S After you have finished reading the book, work with your class to make a story grammar for the book. Since Little Mouse’s gift was a song, write each of the story elements on large musical notes. Cut one musical note from a 12” x 18” (30 cm x 46 cm) construction paper for each of the following story elements: setting, characters, problems, events, resolution (solution), and theme. Display your story grammar musical notes on a bulletin board. Be sure to include the title of the book in your display, too. Children may each make torn-paper mice to add to the display.

S Discuss with your students whether this story is real or fantasy. Ask students to recall the clues that helped them decide that the story is fictional (clothing on mice, sleep in beds, wearing wristwatches, etc.). List these on a chart and look back in the book to check for accuracy.

S = Specific to The Mother’s Day Mice   G = General Mother’s Day activity
Mother’s Day Coupon Book

Color carefully, cut out, and staple the coupons into book form. (Personalize blank coupons if you like.) Give to Mother for a present on Mother’s Day.

Happy Mother’s Day

from ____________________________

Good for 1 hug.

Good for 1 errand.

Good for playing with the baby.

Good for 1 job of your choice.

Good for feeding a pet.

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#782 Mother’s Day Activities