

Mother's Day Activities

Edited by Ina Massler Levin

Cover Art by Nancee McClure

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.



Teacher Created Resources, Inc.

6421 Industry Way
Westminster, CA 92683
www.teachercreated.com

ISBN-1-55734-782-4

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Reprinted, 2005

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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 Poetry: *Poems for Mothers* selected by Myra Cohn Livingston (Holiday House, 1988); "Only One Mother" by George Cooper and "Mommies" by Nikki Giovanni, *Poems and Rhymes* (World Book-Childcraft International, 1982); "On Mother's Day" by Aileen Fisher, *Random House Book of Poetry for Children* (Random House, 1983)

Related Songs: "It's Your Special Day" by Sue Brown, "Happy Mother's Day to You" by Sandra 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.

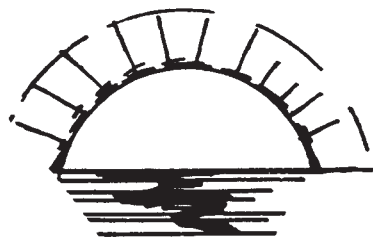
S = Specific to *The Mother's Day Mice*

G = General Mother's Day activity



Mother's Day Coupon Book

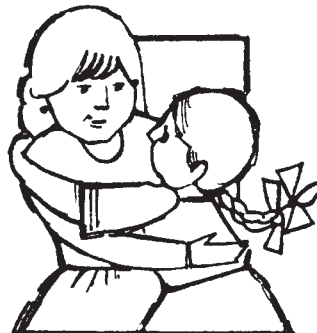
Color carefully, cut out, and staple the coupons into book form. (Personalize blank coupons if you like.) Give to Mother for a present on Mother's Day.



*Happy
Mother's
Day*

from _____

Good for 1 hug.



Good for 1 errand.



Good for 1 job of your choice.



Good for playing with the baby.



Good for feeding a pet.

