

Resource Sheet – School Bus

Written by: Donald Crews

Activity suggestions for 4 - 6 year olds

Make & Take: Book **I Can Read While Riding the Bus**

1. Discuss with the children if they have ever had a ride on a school bus.
2. Talk about bus safety and the importance of following rules while riding the bus.
3. Ask children what they see when they look out the window of the bus. Focus their attention on environmental print concepts such as road signs, store signs, street signs, names on mailboxes, house numbers, etc.
4. Using your book, count how many children are riding this bus.
5. Practice subtraction skills - each time you flip the page, there is one less child - someone has gotten off the bus - discuss it!

Song for: Environmental Print

(tune: The Wheels on the Bus)

The wheels on the bus are round, round, round.
Round, round, round - round, round, round.
The wheels on the bus are round, round, round.
All through the town.

From the bus you see a red octagon,
A red octagon, a red octagon.
From the bus you see a red octagon,
The stop sign at the corner.

From the bus you see a yellow triangle,
Yellow triangle, yellow triangle.
From the bus you see a yellow triangle,
The yield sign at the corner.

Repeat with other shapes on the bus and signs you see from the bus. From: Esso Family Math Extended Resources

Other Activities that Enhance the Book "School Bus"

Math - provide the children with various yellow shapes such as rectangles, circles, squares and triangles. Encourage them to "build a 2-D bus" using the shapes. Demonstrate how two smaller shapes can be put together to make a larger shape. You may also want to demonstrate how rectangles can be cut in half to make squares, squares can be cut corner to corner to make triangles and circles can be cut in half to make half circles. This activity provides children with experiences manipulating geometric shapes.

Language/Science - obtain some road maps from your local tourism office (often they are free). Encourage children to drive small vehicles along the streets to find their way - for example - home from school, to the library, to their swimming lessons, etc. This is a great activity to send home for the child to do with their parent so they can "drive" to places that are familiar to them or part of their family routine. Mark the route with a marker and bring it back to school to show.

Memory Game - Make memory game cards using environmental print that we would see on signs in our everyday travels - EXIT, OPEN, CLOSED, STOP, no smoking, women's washroom, men's washroom, etc. For older children, use the environmental print sign for one of the matching cards and the written words for the other card. This will provide an opportunity for beginner readers to "read" what the sign means.

Environmental Print I Spy - Take pictures of environmental print near your school or childcare centre. Arrange the pictures on a game board. Make some binoculars and go on a literacy walk and mark off each sign as you see it.

Check out these related books:

I Read Signs by Tana Hoban
The Wheels on the Bus by Raffi
Molly Rides the School Bus by Julie Brillhart
The Bus Ride by Anne McLean
Signs on the Road by Mary Hill

Check out this Website

www.mrsnelsonclass.com/teacherresources/thematicunits/transpo rtation.aspx