

Dads & Kids Book Club
Daddy is a Doodlebug
Session Outline

Story Related Outcomes for Dads:

1. Dads will understand their child's perspective about spending time together.
2. Dads will appreciate the value of everyday activities with their child.

Story Related Outcomes for Children:

1. Children will be exposed to positive role models of dads and kids interacting.
2. Children will appreciate word play as a fun way to tell a story.

Schedule of Activities:

Warm-in Time (10 minutes)

- Welcome, name-tags
- Scavenger Hunt – Refer to the resource page for scavenger hunt activities

Large Group Story Reading (20 minutes)

- Introductions
- Fingerplay: *I Had a Little Turtle*
I had a little turtle who lived in a box
He swam in the water, he climbed on the rocks
He snapped at a mosquito, he snapped at a flea
He snapped at a minnow, and he snapped at me!
He caught the mosquito, he caught the flea
He caught the minnow, but he couldn't catch me!
- Introduce and read the book *Daddy is a Doodlebug*

Dads & Kids Activity Time (30 minutes)

- Snack – Ants on a log
- Dramatic Play – Lunch out with Dad
- Craft – Playdough and pipe cleaner bugs
- Science – Counting and Sorting – Count bug counters and sort them by color or type
- Art – Ladybug stencils
- Literacy/Writing – What I like to do with dad

Dads Discussion Time (25 minutes)

1. Parent Session for Dads
 - See Parent Session Plan
 - Hand out books and tip sheet for *Daddy is a Doodlebug*
2. Early Childhood Session for Children
 - Children continue to work on projects – snack, art, etc.
 - Group story and song at the end

Closing (5 minutes)

- Thank yous, reminder for next session, goodbye

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Tips for Reading

Helping your child to enjoy the story

1. Read over the story to become familiar with the words and get comfortable with the word play.
2. Point out and talk about the humorous things you see in each picture (a swing set made of pencils, mushroom chairs, teacup houses, a “beetles” poster).
3. On the inside pages at the beginning and end of the book, find the bugs, count them, name colors, find your favorite, find your child’s favorite.

Helping your child to understand the story

4. Ask your child about some of the things she/he likes to do with you.
5. For the different activities the child in the story describes, ask your child about those activities in your own lives (What kind of animals do we see at the zoo? What do we eat for lunch?).
6. For each word that has been turned into an “oodle” word, ask your child about the original word (What is a padoodle? A potoodle? A caboodle?).

Helping your child to learn new words

7. Use word play to make up new words.
8. Talk about words you have made up in your family.
9. Talk about what a doodlebug is. Name other bugs for your child.

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Parent Session

Ice-Breaker/Introductions

- How did your child respond to the “oodle” words in the story?

Story Sharing – Discuss the book

- What would your child say is the thing she/he likes to do best with you?
What makes this activity special for your child?
What makes this activity special for you?
- The child in the story describes some everyday, repetitive activities with dad (eating lunch, walking the dog, bedtime stories).
What repetitive activities do you notice throughout your week?
Is there a special place you go with your child on a certain day of the week?
What kind of bedtime routines do you have?
Why are these routines so important?

Story Reading

- What strategies did you notice the story reader using to get the children involved?
- How did they work?
- Page through the book and share your reactions to the illustrations.
- Pairs – Practice reading some of the “oodle” passages in the story.
- Distribute and discuss “Tips for Reading Daddy is a Doodlebug.”

Closure

- Pay attention to those activities your child likes doing with you.
- Appreciate your everyday routines.
- Books that manipulate words and language are fun for children and provide practice in prereading skills.

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Materials List

Cooking – Ants on a Log

- One bunch of celery, cut into three inch pieces
- Soft cream cheese
- One bag of raisins
- Plastic knives for spreading cream cheese

Craft – Play dough and pipe cleaner bugs – Create your own bug

- Homemade play dough (Heat slowly on low and stir constantly until dough forms a ball, knead). Or, use your favorite recipe.
 - 1 cup flour
 - 1 cup water
 - ½ cup salt
 - 1 T. cooking oil
 - 2 tsp. cream of tartar
 - food coloring
- Bag of colored pipe cleaners – Cut to size to be legs or antennae for bugs

Art – Ladybug stencils

- Tag board or heavy paper – Cut into shape of a large ladybug to make stencil. Cut holes in the stencil for the ladybug spots.
- Red construction paper – cut to the size of the ladybug stencil
- Easel and easel clips – clip stencil to red paper on the easel
- Black paint
- Paint brushes – Children can paint inside of circles with black paint for the ladybug spots, then remove stencil.

Science – Counting and sorting

- One set of sorting bug counters in multiple colors
- Corresponding colored cups

Dramatic Play – Lunch out with Dad - Choose lunch items from menu and serve yourself buffet style

- Small table and chairs
- Menu listing lunch items
- Plates and pretend food items to match menu

Literacy/Writing Activity – What I like to do with Dad - Glue pictures of activities child likes to do with dad on paper and label activities

- Pictures from magazines of activities children do (reading books, riding bikes, cooking, playing games, etc.)
- Large drawing paper
- Glue sticks
- Crayons or markers for dad or child to label activities