

Dads & Kids Book Club
Tell Me What We Did Today
Session Outline

Story Related Outcomes for Dads:

1. Dads will understand the importance of observing their child and discovering their interests and abilities.
2. Dads will appreciate the every day activities that fathers and children can do together.

Story Related Outcomes for Children:

1. Children will appreciate fantasy and humor with dads.
2. Children will be introduced to the New Word Book to help expand vocabulary.

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
- Song – Refer to the resource page for song suggestions
- Introduce and Read the Book - *Tell Me What We Did Today*

Dads & Kids Activity Time (30 minutes)

- *Snacks* – Word Crackers and Purple Cows
- *Dramatic Play* – House Corner and Cooking
- *Craft* – Make wooden sailboats and practice sailing them in water table.
- *Science* – Sink & Float – Test a set of different objects to see what will sink or float.
- *Art* – Easel Painting with watercolors – Something you did today
- *Literacy/Writing Activity* – New Word Book – Begin the routine of writing down a new word and drawing a picture. Book has a page for one new word each day for the next week.

Dad's Discussion Time (25 minutes)

1. Parent Session for Dads
 - See Parent Session Plan
 - Hand out books and tip sheet for *Tell Me What We Did Today*
2. Early Childhood Session for Children
 - Children continue to work on projects – snack, art, etc.
 - Group story and song

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 and practice the rhythm and flow of the words.
2. Emphasize the rhyming words as you read.
3. Point out and have fun with the humor in the pictures (e.g., eating with your feet, alligator cracker).
4. Let your child help you with the Noooo responses from the child in the story.
5. Ask questions about the baby in the pictures. What is she doing?

Helping your child to understand the story

6. It may take a few times before your child understands the structure and response patterns of the story. Read it often.
7. Invite your child to describe feelings and activities for the day...give them time to respond. They may need a question or suggestion to get them going.

Helping your child to learn new words

8. There may be a few new words to explain (e.g. absurd). The words in this story should be familiar to most children ages 4-6.
9. You might introduce new words in helping to describe or expand upon the activities of the day. For example, use a new feeling word like disappointment.

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Parent Session

Ice-Breaker/Introductions

- What did you like in particular about this book?

Story Sharing – discuss the book

- Hand out books and recap the story – Father and daughter discussing what they did during the day, including many funny but unbelievable activities.
- How did your child respond to the story? What did he/she like best?
- How did the author invite the child to participate? How did this work for your child?
- How does the story stimulate your child’s imagination?
- What did you like best about the story?

Story Reading

- How did the reader engage the children in the story?
- Encourage your child to respond to the repeating question “Do you remember that part?” with a resounding “NOOOOOOO!!!!!!”
- Stop reading every time you get to the rocking chair. It means it’s time for the child to talk about what he/she actually did during that part of the day.
- Distribute and discuss “Tips for Reading *Tell Me What We Did Today.*”

Closure

- Encourage the dads to have fun reading this book.
- Remember to stop every time you see the rocking chair so your child can tell you what he/she did during that part of the day.
- Remember to have both fun/loud and serious/quiet times with your child.

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Materials List

Cooking

- Word Crackers
 - One box of graham crackers
 - One container pre-mixed chocolate frosting
 - One box of Alpha-bit cereal
 - Small plastic knives for spreading the frosting
- Purple Cows
 - Blender
 - ½ gallon of Vanilla Ice Cream
 - ½ gallon of milk
 - Small cups
 - Recipe- Mix ½ cup of milk, 1 scoop of ice cream and 1 tablespoon of concentrated frozen grape juice in blender.

Dramatic Play - House Corner

- Traditional Early Childhood Classroom with small table and chairs and kitchen areas with plates pots, and pretend food

Craft - Sailboats

- 1" x 4" pieces of wood cut 8-10 inches long
- Small hand drill with ¼ " drill bit
- Coping saw for dowel rods
- ½ " dowels – cut about 8 " length
- Sails can be made from cardstock or plastic folders cut into triangles
- Paper punch (use to make two holes in the sail)
- Water table filled with water for practice sailing

Science- Sink and Float Experiment

- Water Table (from above)
- Gather a container with a variety of common household objects that sink or float (example plastic block, wooden block, straw)
- Paper with two columns labeled Sink and Float for recording
- Observations

Literacy/Writing Activity - New Word Book

- Create a book by folding in half and stapling together a piece of cardstock (cover) and 2 pieces of plain 8.5" x11" paper inside
- 1 set of markers or colored pencils for writing the title and first word and decorating the cover