

Words that *Cook!* Parenting with children's books™

DVD Viewing & Workshop Guide

Show 10:
Active Learning

www.WordsThatCook.org

About Words That Cook!

Words That Cook! is an award-winning educational media company producing and delivering innovative literacy resources that empower parents and educators to inspire and motivate children. Our products and services include educational television programming and DVDs, Web resources, accredited courseware and training, and family literacy publications.

About Words that *Cook!* Parenting with children's books™

Originating as a 13-part series broadcast on select PBS affiliates and on public access cable stations nationwide, *Words that Cook! Parenting with children's books* is the winner of the *International Reading Association 2005 Broadcast Media Award for Television* and is now available in DVD format.

This series celebrates the joy of reading, the art of writing, the wonder of storytelling and the magic of wordplay through a combination of interviews and live action spiced up with animated fun.

Professionals, experts, parents and children model and discuss enjoyable and practical techniques for enriching literacy experiences. Designed for educators and parents of children ages 0-12, each DVD includes an original 30-minute episode, comprised of five or six related segments, plus bonus guest material and messages from the executive producers.

About this Viewing & Workshop Guide

This guide is designed to help you get the most out of the DVD, whether you are nurturing family literacy in your home, center or school.

With the guide, you can review the many family literacy suggestions presented throughout the show, read summaries of recommended books and engage in suggested activities.

If you are a professional planning workshops for others, you'll find helpful show overview and summary information as well as appropriate discussion prompts for both parent workshops and professional staff development.

The grade levels specified for each DVD chapter and extra indicate the grades to which the topics and modeled strategies apply. When children are featured, the *italicized* grade level indicates the range into which those children fall. If other grade levels are also listed, the topics and modeled strategies are appropriate for these grades as well.

By watching, discussing and using the strategies modeled in the show, we hope you and your family, or the families you serve, will be empowered to create dynamic and exciting reading and writing experiences for children.

Summary of Show 10: Active Learning

Children need opportunities to succeed, especially when they struggle with language-based learning differences. By incorporating into learning elements of visual support, hands-on exploration, playful language activities, artistic expression and physical challenges, this show's guests reveal ways to help children get excited about learning and ultimately excel in school.

NOTE: This DVD and the Show 11 DVD focus on curriculum and practices of The Carroll School – a dynamic independent day school for elementary and middle school students who have been diagnosed with specific learning disabilities in reading and writing, such as dyslexia. These practices incorporate multisensory approaches to learning that are of value to all children and parents.

Show 10 Outline

Show Intro (length – 1:28)

In The Carroll School virtual hallway, hosts Monty Haas and Martine Bernard introduce the theme of this show: *Active Learning*.

Chapter 1: Using Visuals to Support Learning (length – :21)

Guest(s): Donna Sullivan, Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Location: The Carroll School

Grade Level(s): Kindergarten – Grade 2; Grades 3 – 6

Topic(s): conversational abilities versus language learning abilities; importance of incorporating visuals when teaching children with language-based learning differences

Recipes for Success™:

Use visuals to help children focus when listening

Chapter 2: Multisensory Math (length – 5:25)

Guest(s): Ronnie Cristiano, 3rd Grade Teacher

Location: The Carroll School

Grade Level(s): Kindergarten – Grade 2; *Grades 3 – 6*

Topic(s): accommodating different learning styles; benefits of multisensory teaching; importance of parents reading aloud; reading aloud to increase vocabulary; using repetition to reinforce new vocabulary; presenting new vocabulary in a variety of contexts; math-related picture books; finding math concepts in everyday life; wondering out loud with children; reinforcing new vocabulary at home; engaging children and reinforcing learning by providing opportunities for creative thinking

Modeled Strategies: demonstrating and describing an activity before having children do it; asking questions, making comparisons and using repetition to reinforce new information and vocabulary; encouraging children with praise; exploring new concepts through multisensory activities; incorporating small group and paired work into classroom learning; incorporating reading aloud into classroom lessons; using children’s books that creatively connect with the curriculum; pausing when reading aloud to discuss content and ask questions; engaging children and reinforcing learning by providing opportunities for creative thinking

Book(s): *The Greedy Triangle* by Marilyn Burns; *The Grapes of Math* and *Math Appeal* by Greg Tang; *The Missing Piece* and *The Missing Piece Meets the Big O* by Shel Silverstein

Recipes for Success:

- Try hands-on activities together
- Demonstrate and describe your expectations
- Have children put their thoughts into words
- Repeat new vocabulary in many different contexts
- Look for math concepts as you read aloud to
- Wonder out loud with your children
- Talk the talk – use new vocabulary at home
- Integrate math into everyday life
- Involve kids' creativity

Chapter 3: Strengthening Language and Communication Skills at Home (length – 1:23)

Guest(s): Donna Sullivan, Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Location: The Carroll School

Grade Level(s): Kindergarten – Grade 2; Grades 3 – 6

Topic(s): families engaging in enjoyable language activities; importance of mealttime conversations; reading aloud and engaging in “book talk”; playing with language

Recipes for Success:

- Talk with children and play with language

Chapter 4: Family Wordplay and Reading (length – 1:53)

Guest(s): Laura Waldron, Mom

Location: The Carroll School

Grade Level(s): Kindergarten – Grade 2; *Grades 3 – 6*

Topic(s): supporting children with language-based learning differences; supporting hands-on learners; engaging children in wordplay games and activities; practicing writing in non-intimidating ways; making books and reading part of everyday life; enjoying reading aloud; playing with magnetic words; establishing bedtime routine of reading aloud; reading aloud books that are above child's reading level; using reading aloud to support communication

Modeled Strategies: playing with magnetic words; parents reading aloud with children

Recipes for Success:

Practice writing letters and words in the sand

Play with magnetic words

Continue to read aloud with older children

Share opinions when you read aloud

Chapter 5: Educating the Whole Child (length – :54)

Guest(s): Donna Sullivan, Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Location: The Carroll School

Grade Level(s): Kindergarten – Grade 2; Grades 3 – 6

Topic(s): distinguishing between a child's learning differences and the child as a whole person; respecting children; recognizing children's interests and strengths

Recipes for Success:

Respect children as individuals

Recognize children's interests and strengths

Chapter 6: Connecting Visual Arts and Literacy (length – 4:08)

Guest(s): Diane Francis, Visual Arts Teacher

Location: The Carroll School

Grade Level(s): Kindergarten – Grade 2; *Grades 3 – 6*

Topic(s): non-academic classes that provide opportunities to succeed; asking questions to guide children without taking over; being patient and letting children reach conclusions on their own; using different types of books in the classroom; using children's books that creatively connect with the curriculum; reading aloud to increase vocabulary; presenting vocabulary with visuals; daily classroom routine of exploring new vocabulary; relating new vocabulary to familiar words and concepts; promoting the use of new vocabulary

Modeled Strategies: asking questions to guide children without taking over; being patient and letting children reach conclusions on their own; presenting vocabulary with visuals; asking questions to reinforce new vocabulary; relating new vocabulary to familiar words and concepts

Book(s): The *Getting to Know the World's Greatest Artists* series by Mike Venezia

Recipes for Success:

Remember that non-academic classes can let children shine
Experiment with a variety of materials and projects
Provide direction and give children time to catch on
Let children find their way to their own conclusions
Look for children's books that explore different artists
Consider presenting words with visuals
Promote the use of new vocabulary

Chapter 7: Playing with Sounds and Words (length – :59)

Guest(s): Donna Sullivan, Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Location: The Carroll School

Grade Level(s): Kindergarten – Grade 2; *Grades 3 – 6*

Topic(s): engaging children in wordplay games and activities; playing with the sounds of words

Recipes for Success:

Play with the sounds of words

Chapter 8: A Rhyming Treasure Hunt (length – 1:08)

Guest(s): Laurie Joy Haas, Words that Cook! Executive Producer, with Chip the Cookie-Bookie Bear™

Location: The Words that Cook! Virtual Den

Grade Level(s): Pre-Kindergarten; Kindergarten – Grade 2

Topic(s): treasure hunts that incorporate language in a fun way

Modeled Strategies: playing a treasure hunt that incorporates rhyming words; reinforcing communication by asking questions and discussing elements of games as you play

Recipes for Success:

Create games that use language in a fun way

Encourage children to play with rhyming words

Chapter 9: Helping Children Discover Their Strengths (length – 1:07)

Guest(s): Donna Sullivan, Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Location: The Carroll School

Grade Level(s): Kindergarten – Grade 2; Grades 3 – 6

Topic(s): teaching to children's strengths; non-academic classes that provide opportunities to succeed; promoting risk taking

Recipes for Success:

Offer children opportunities to succeed

Chapter 10: Boosting Confidence and Communication with Outdoor Challenges (length – 3:10)

Guest(s): Raelyn Viti, Bounders Teacher; Brian Kelly, Bounders Director

Location: The Carroll School

Grade Level(s): Kindergarten – Grade 2; *Grades 3 – 6*

Topic(s): engaging children in activities that spring from books; providing opportunities for leadership and decision making; asking questions to guide children without taking over; being patient and letting children reach conclusions on their own; challenging children to push themselves; non-academic classes that provide opportunities to succeed; correlation between academic and non-academic classes

Modeled Strategies: engaging children in activities that spring from books; describing an activity before having children do it; providing opportunities for children to work as a team; asking questions to guide children without taking over; asking for and respecting children’s input; being patient and letting children reach conclusions on their own; encouraging children with praise; debriefing after an activity

Book(s): *The Bravest Dog Ever: The True Story of Balto* by Natalie Standiford

Recipes for Success:

Plan activities that spring from books

Let children make decisions

Gently guide children with questions

Find programs that will challenge your children

Remember that practice in problem solving leads to academic success

Show Recap/Close (length – 3:21)

Hosts Monty Haas and Martine Bernard review selected Recipes for Success and present the Recommended Book List.

Extra 1: A Word from Our Producers (length – 2:56)

Guest(s): Monty Haas and Laurie Joy Haas, Words that Cook! Executive Producers

Topic(s): overview of show content and guests; the mission of The Carroll School in aiding children with language-based learning differences; Bounders program; value of multisensory approaches to learning for all children and parents

Book(s): *A Splendid Friend, Indeed* by Suzanne Bloom

Extra 2: More Donna Sullivan – “Learning Disability Resources” (length – 2:12)

Guest(s): Donna Sullivan, Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Grade Level(s): Kindergarten – Grade 2; Grades 3 – 6

Topic(s): parents educating themselves about language-based learning differences; using the Internet to research learning disabilities; specific recommended learning disability Web sites

Book(s): *Overcoming Dyslexia: A New and Complete Science-Based Program for Reading Problems at Any Level* by Sally Shaywitz, M.D.

Extra 3: More Diane Francis – “Visual Arts Children’s Books” (length – 1:32)

Guest(s): Diane Francis, Visual Arts Teacher

Grade Level(s): Kindergarten – Grade 2; Grades 3 – 6

Topic(s): overview of visual arts children’s books; how these books offer learning about artists in an age-appropriate way; using these books as springboards to related art projects

Book(s): *Frida Kahlo* (*Getting to Know the World’s Greatest Artists* series) by Mike Venezia; *Henry Moore* (*Artists in Their Time* series) by Sally O’Reilly; *My Name Is Georgia: A Portrait* by Jeanette Winter; *Tar Beach* by Faith Ringgold

Extra 4: More Diane Francis – “Reinforcing Learning at Home” (length – 1:02)

Guest(s): Diane Francis, Visual Arts Teacher

Grade Level(s): Kindergarten – Grade 2; Grades 3 – 6

Topic(s): finding out what children are studying in school; asking specific questions about children’s school day and school work; expanding school work with related discussion and activities; using repetition to reinforce learning

Extra 5: More Brian Kelly & Raelyn Viti – “Verbalizing Frustration & Needs” (length – :34)

Guest(s): Raelyn Viti, Bounders Teacher

Grade Level(s): Kindergarten – Grade 2; Grades 3 – 6

Topic(s): importance of helping children verbalize their frustration and needs

Extra 6: More Brian Kelly & Raelyn Viti – “Drawing Kids Out” (length – 1:11)

Guest(s): Brian Kelly, Bounders Director

Grade Level(s): Kindergarten – Grade 2; Grades 3 – 6

Topic(s): encouraging problem solving; drawing out shy children; providing opportunities for children to share knowledge with each other

Extra 7: More Brian Kelly & Raelyn Viti – “Making Vocabulary Tangible” (length – :50)

Guest(s): Raelyn Viti, Bounders Teacher; Brian Kelly, Bounders Director

Grade Level(s): Kindergarten – Grade 2; Grades 3 – 6

Topic(s): using tactile learning to introduce and reinforce new vocabulary

Extra 8: Becka Hitchcock – “Hands-On History” (length – 1:49)

Guest(s): Becka Hitchcock, Social Studies Teacher

Grade Level(s): Grades 3 – 6

Topic(s): supporting reading comprehension with related hands-on projects

Extra 9: Becka Hitchcock – “Visuals & Interests Motivate” (length – :47)

Guest(s): Becka Hitchcock, Social Studies Teacher

Grade Level(s): Kindergarten – Grade 2; Grades 3 – 6

Topic(s): recognizing that children are drawn in by visuals; relating books and reading to other media; connecting books and reading with children’s interests

Extra 10: Becka Hitchcock – “Learning from Peers” (length – :42)

Guest(s): Becka Hitchcock, Social Studies Teacher

Grade Level(s): Grades 3 – 6

Topic(s): fostering open debate and discussions among children; children learning and gaining new perspectives from peers

Extra 11: Becka Hitchcock – “Providing Options” (length – 1:44)

Guest(s): Becka Hitchcock, Social Studies Teacher

Grade Level(s): Kindergarten – Grade 2; Grades 3 – 6

Topic(s): providing children with options to sustain interest, promote a sense of “ownership” and offer a better chance of success

Show 10 Recommended Book List

For Ages 0 to 3:

This Little Light of Mine

Illustrated by E.B. Lewis

This picture book springs forth delightfully from the lyrics to the old African American spiritual. The words are an affirmation of the power and uniqueness each human being possesses and they reinforce a belief in oneself even in the face of adversity. Lush illustrations by E. B. Lewis depict a day in the life of one African American boy. We witness the boy celebrating his individuality with family and friends and taking the time to raise the spirits of another little boy to help him recognize the value of his own inner “light”. This book conveys a simple but vital message for everyone – no matter what age. At the close of the book, you will find the sheet music for the song along with four verses of lyrics.

A Splendid Friend, Indeed

Written and illustrated by Suzanne Bloom

Bear is trying to spend a quiet day reading, writing and thinking, but this plan is soon interrupted by the arrival of Goose, who can’t help but talk about how exciting these activities are. It seems these two are complete opposites, but their shared love of books just might make each *A Splendid Friend, Indeed*. With just a few words alongside delightful illustrations, Suzanne Bloom delivers an important message not only about friendship and how true friends accept each other’s sometimes annoying behavior, but also about a love of literacy. Little ones will be charmed by the interactions between the characters and will hopefully grow to emulate their enthusiasm for reading and writing.

For Ages 3 to 6:

Chicken in the Kitchen

Written by Tony Johnston

Illustrated by Eleanor Taylor

The rhythm and meter of this text, along with the rhyming words and hilarious illustrations, all contribute to a joyful reading aloud experience.

“There’s a chicken in the kitchen,
and she’s pokin’ like the dickens
at the oven and the bread box.
Just a peckin’ and a pickin’.”

So begins this tale of one restless chicken wreaking havoc in a dog’s kitchen. As the mayhem escalates, you might question why this hen is so flustered and wonder if and when the destruction will end. But don’t underestimate this dog: He’s got an idea that could solve everything and bring peace (at least temporarily) and some other unexpected delights to his kitchen.

Find a Face

Created by Francois and Jean Robert with Jane Gittings

This clever and inventive book is an open invitation to imagine. Photographs of a wide variety of objects – from headphones to ice skates – are taken from specific angles so that they magically transform into faces. Each item is identified in small upside-down type at the bottom of the photo. As you go through the book, you might want to cover this information and see if you and your children can guess what the objects are. The bright colors of the items and of the backgrounds serve to further engage the eyes. This approach will encourage children to see things from different perspectives and to look at them more deeply. Perhaps there’s a subtle message here that not everything – or *everyone* for that matter – is as it first appears.

For Ages 6 to 9:

Cora Frear (Brave Kids/Ready-for-Chapters series)

Written by Susan E. Goodman

Illustrated by Doris Ettliger

Cora awakes one morning to the smell of fresh-ground coffee beans and the clanging of the oatmeal pot on the stove. Her father, Doc Frear, invites Cora along on his afternoon house call to the Iowa countryside, but when Cora comes home from school, she finds the house call has become an emergency. As she and Papa hurriedly set off by horse and buggy, the darkening skies don’t signal a storm, but warn of an impending calamity that could destroy Cora’s beloved prairie. All too quickly, Cora and Papa find themselves in the midst of great danger. Will this young pioneer girl be able to rise to the occasion and help save Papa, herself and their horses? This fast-paced true story is not only exciting, but also holds an important lesson of courage and self-assurance.

Landscapes (A First Discovery Art book)

Created by Claude Delafosse and Gallimard Jeunesse

Illustrated by Tony Ross

The design of this book is simply ingenious! Cut-out holes show detailed elements of paintings or represent windows. Transparencies show how a painting might progress, or transform a landscape altogether. Paintings are sequenced to lead you from outside of a house into a room within or to show how the changing light of the day affects color and perspective. Straightforward text directs you to search for or note specific elements of the paintings. An art gallery is created so you can see examples of more artists' works. The book closes with a twist on hide-and-seek, whereby details from paintings in the book are shown and you are encouraged to figure out to which work of art each detail belongs. Additionally, there is a listing of all of the artists and paintings represented. Budding artists will delight in this book, and others might just discover a new interest.

Shape Up! Fun with Triangles and Other Polygons

Written by David A. Adler

Illustrated by Nancy Tobin

Attention parents and kids who sometimes feel that Math is boring or too complex: This book's for you! When you get ready to read this selection with your child, make sure you have the necessary supplies on hand, such as pretzel sticks, graph paper and pieces of bread (a full list is included at the beginning of the book). By using the specified items and following the simple directions, you will discover a world of polygons – from triangles to quadrilaterals, all the way up to dodecagons. Along the way, you'll learn how the number, size and position of sides and angles determine the type of shape. This practical, hands-on approach makes learning geometry enjoyable and easy to grasp. To reinforce the concepts, the book closes with a quick review page that defines the different types of angles and shapes.

For Ages 9 to 12:

Jackie's Wild Seattle

Written by Will Hobbs

Shannon and her little brother, Cody, are off to Washington state in the summer of 2002 for some amazing and occasionally reckless adventures with their Uncle Neal. Uncle Neal is an ambulance driver for a wildlife rescue center called Jackie's Wild Seattle. Initially, neither Shannon nor Cody is particularly excited. Their mother and father, both doctors, are in Pakistan working for Doctors Without Borders. The children are filled with trepidation at leaving their home in New Jersey, being separated from their parents and dealing with the emotional fallout of the events of September 11th. But as they grow closer to their uncle and the staff of the rescue center and become animal rescuers themselves, Shannon and Cody discover that they each have more strength and courage than they ever imagined.

A Single Shard (Newbery Medal Winner)

Written by Linda Sue Park

Twelve-year-old Tree-Ear is an orphan boy living under a bridge in the potter's village of Ch'ulp'o, Korea with his elderly friend, Crane-Man. Tree-Ear passes his days rummaging through trash heaps for food. He is irresistibly drawn to the workplace of master potter Min. When Tree-Ear is discovered in Min's workshop standing over a broken celadon pot, he must work for Min to pay for the damage. After working off his debt, Tree-Ear convinces Min to let him stay on as his assistant. Tree-Ear endures a year-and-a-half of back-breaking labor and Min's hot temper before he is sent on a long, solitary voyage in the hopes of securing a royal commission. Due to the hazards of his journey, when Tree-Ear arrives at the royal court, only a single shard of Min's work remains. Will it be enough to convince the emissary of the brilliance of Min's art? Will Tree-Ear return to Ch'ulp'o with good news? And will he ever have the chance to be a potter himself?

Set in 12th century Korea, *A Single Shard* is a tale of determination, endurance, courage and hope. Linda Sue Park weaves great suspense into this story and vividly conveys the hardships and challenges of an orphan's life, the exquisite beauty of celadon pottery and the culture of an artist community. Children will come away from this book feeling empowered to believe in and pursue their dreams.

The Weather Detectives: Fun-Filled Facts, Experiments & Activities for Kids

Written by Mark Eubank

Illustrated by Mark A. Hicks

Bryan Bronson and his two best friends, Rudy and Olivia, get to travel to outer space and return to Earth for all sorts of weather-related expeditions. They decide to form a club and record their experiences, dubbing themselves the Weather Detectives. As you travel through space with them, you'll learn how an atmosphere, or the lack thereof, impacts weather. Back on Earth, the detectives take you along on trips throughout the U.S. where they encounter and survive different weather phenomena from freezing rain to tornadoes, the Northern Lights to flash floods. In addition to the compelling and exciting story of each new experience, chapters contain sidebar items with weather facts, experiments, activities, safety tips and more. The cartoon-like illustrations by Mark A. Hicks add a flair of liveliness and humor. This book explains weather in the context of adventure and is sure to electrify budding scientists and meteorologists, or any child who wonders how weather works.

For Parents:

Making Toys for School-Age Children

Written by Linda G. Miller and Mary Jo Gibbs

Illustrated by Kathy Dobbs

With more than 100 homemade toy designs, this book presents endless possibilities for fun and learning, or perhaps better said, fun *in* learning. While directed at teachers of school-age children, this book is equally suited to parents and other caretakers. The project plans encompass more than materials lists and instructions for making toys from everyday items: they provide guidance for how to use the toys to engage children in active learning. The projects are organized into categories or "zones" such as Drama Zone, Creativity Zone and Games and Problem-Solving Zone. These toys are about much more than playtime: they are designed to support children's interests, encourage interaction, boost self-confidence and challenge children's minds. And when you work together with your children creating and using these toys, fabulous, fun experiences are sure to follow.

Parent's Guide to Literacy for the 21st Century: Pre-K through Grade 5

Written by Janie Hydrick

This comprehensive guide to literacy is straightforward and accessible both in its presentation and its content. Author **Janie Hydrick** draws on her experiences as a parent, a 30-year classroom teacher and a former National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) president. In each of the five sections of the book (Basics, Language, Reading, Writing and Across the Disciplines), you will find an introduction to the concepts within the section, definitions of the concepts, vignettes demonstrating what the concepts could look like in a classroom or home environment and practical at-home activities to support the concepts. Janie Hydrick suggests that you try the activities that feel comfortable and appropriate for you and your children and that you view them as springboards for your own ideas. She further suggests that you simply open the book to an area of interest and "...let the literacy adventure begin."

Suggested Literacy Activities

Talk to children of all ages about their unique gifts and strengths. In the classroom or at home, make weekly "Celebrating Ourselves" signs that say, "We celebrate Kayla's..." and fill in the blank with a different trait or ability, such as sweet smile, contagious laugh, willingness to share, artistic talent and so on. Involve other teachers and students, or family members and friends, by asking for their input. Take time to read aloud the signs and to emphasize that every person, no matter what they look like or where they live or anything else, is special.

Play with rhyming words with children. This can be done at all age levels simply by giving children a word, such as "top," and asking children for words that rhyme. Adjust the difficulty of the words you provide according to the child's age and language abilities. If necessary, you can also provide a couple of rhyming words to help them get started. Even nonsense words children might suggest, such as "nop" or "zop," signify an understanding of the rhyming concept.

Rhyming books are great for reading aloud and can be terrific tools for supporting the development of language skills and, specifically, phonemic awareness (the ability to hear and manipulate the sounds in spoken words, and the understanding that spoken words and syllables are made up of sequences of speech sounds). For humorous poems and stories told in rhyme, check out selections by Shel Silverstein, Jack Prelutsky and, of course, Dr. Seuss.

On trips to the grocery store, the post office or just about anywhere, take some time with children to talk about and look for shapes. You can even do this in your own school, classroom or home. Riding on the school bus or in the car is a terrific time to play lookout. Stop signs are octagons. Yield signs are triangles. License plates are quadrilaterals. Take turns with kids identifying objects and naming their shapes. You'll soon find that math, and geometry in particular, is everywhere!

For more fun with geometry, visit www.mathcats.com and click on the cat. Enter Math Cats Explore and look for the Polygon Playground. Here children can create all sorts of pictures by selecting from hundreds of colored polygons and clicking and dragging them into the desired position. With a kick-start from their imaginations, kids can create animals, designs and patterns while exploring geometry and principles like symmetry. Talk about their choices, using the actual terminology for the shapes and principles. Also, in the Math Crafts section, you'll find different projects that incorporate geometry. The content of this Web site is generally designed for children ages five to twelve. For suggested ages for specific online activities and crafts, visit the Site Map and Info area.

Encourage children of all ages to draw and paint. They can start by imitating an artist, illustrator or style they like, or simply by drawing their unique vision of the world around them. One of the wonderful things about kids and visual arts is that you don't have to impose any hard and fast rules. Just let children run with their imaginations! Do talk with children about their creations – ask why they chose particular colors or what is happening in the picture; point out artistic principles like texture, form and contrast and so on. If children express significant interest in drawing and painting, or any other type of visual arts, consider enrolling them in hands-on classes offered by local art studios, youth and community centers or museums.

At the Web site of The Baltimore Museum of Art (<http://artbma.org/home.html>), you'll find the entertaining, informative and interactive exploration of Henri Matisse. Click on Families under the Education link menu and look for the link to Launch Matisse for Kids. You will then be taken on a tour of Matisse's life led by his dog, Raoudi. As you continue reading along, you will add props, patterns and colors to your portfolio, which can be used later to create Matisse-like works of art.

Additional Words That Cook Resources

Words That Cook develops resources for professionals and parents that help to motivate and inspire children to learn and to love reading, writing, storytelling and wordplay. At our Web site (www.WordsThatCook.org) under Free Resources, you will find valuable information derived from the television series, including activity and additional reading ideas connected to each recommended book. Also at the Marketplace of our site, you can learn more about our other literacy-related products and services.

For Professionals

Discussion prompts and group activity ideas for teacher/staff workshops

Discuss methods of multisensory teaching and how these can be used in your classroom to accommodate different learning styles and to offer children multiple opportunities to succeed.

Select and discuss some of the modeled strategies and Recipes for Success.

Separate into small groups of participants. Provide each group with a concept or lesson to be introduced to the children in their classes. Have the group devise multisensory methods for presenting the concept or lesson that would meet all of the specific needs and learning styles of their children. Share the methods with the whole group.

Discussion prompts and group activity ideas for parent workshops

Discuss how families can practice writing and play with words and letters without using paper and pen, to increase children's confidence and comfort level with language.

Select and discuss some of the modeled strategies and Recipes for Success.

Either in small groups or as a whole, create wordplay games and activities that can easily be incorporated into everyday life while in the grocery store, traveling in the car, waiting in line and so on. Share the games and activities with the whole group.

When working with ESL/ELL families, help them to understand the value of learning and applying literacy strategies in their primary language. Encourage them to also apply strategies in English if it is comfortable and if the adult has developed the English language skills to sufficiently challenge their child.

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DVD Viewing & Workshop Guides for all episodes will be found under [Free Resources](#) at www.WordsThatCook.org.

DVDs can be purchased individually or at discounted prices in sets. Order by phone at 888-875-5368.