

# PRICELESS GIFTS

Pre-Kindergarten

## **Outcome:**

Students will explore the concepts of friendship, fairness, and sharing.

## **Materials:**

Book, *Priceless Gifts*

Paper

Crayons

Tape

Bottle caps, walnut shells, or jar lids (1 per student)

Clay

Toothpicks (1 per student)

Paper

Scissors

Tub or large container of water

Parachute

## **Cooking Materials:**

Toaster or oven

Bowl

Knife

Spoon

Plates

Napkins

## **Ingredients:**

Bread

Butter

Cinnamon

Sugar

## **Optional:**

Cleveland, Rob. *The Magic Apple*. Atlanta: August House, 2006.

Fujita, Hiroko. "Squeak! Squeak! Squeak!" *Stories to Play With*. Little Rock: August House, 1999. 26-29.

MacDonald, Margaret Read. *Fat Cat*. Little Rock: August House, 2001.

## **Assessment Tools:**

"Match the Cats" worksheet

## **INSTRUCTIONAL PLAN**

### **Introductory Activity:**

#### **• Making a Friendship Chain**

##### **Materials:**

Paper

Crayons

Tape

- Teacher asks students to talk about friendship and nice things that friends can do for each other.
- Teacher leads students in a discussion of the concepts of fairness and sharing.
- Teacher gives each student a strip of paper and asks students to draw a picture of themselves doing something nice for a friend.
- Students dictate a sentence and teacher writes it on the paper.
- Each student shows his or her picture and talks about it.
- Teacher and students create a chain using the strips of paper. Teacher and students:
  - bend each strip of paper into a link.
  - place each new link through the previous link.
  - secure with tape.

### **Teacher Reads Story:**

Teacher tells students that they will listen to a story about friendship, fairness, and sharing.

### **Questions for Assessing Students' Comprehension:**

- How did Antonio travel to the islands?
- What did Antonio do with the velvet, dolls, and belts he brought with him?
- Why were the palace guards holding sticks?
- What gift did Antonio give the king?
- Did the king already have cats on his island?
- What did the cats do when they were set loose?
- What did the king give Antonio as a gift?
- What did Luigi give the king?
- What did the king give Luigi?

### **Interpretation:**

- Antonio traded velvet, dolls, and belts for spices. What are spices?
- Name spices that you know.
- Have you ever traded anything?
- When you trade with someone, why is it important for both people to be happy with the trade?
- Were both Antonio and the king happy with their gifts to each other? Why?
- Were both the king and Luigi happy with their gifts to each other? Why?
- How did Luigi feel when he received the kitten in exchange for all of the gifts he gave the king?
- Why was the kitten not such an exciting gift for Luigi to receive?

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## **Interpretation cont.:**

- Why did the king think the kitten was such a special gift?
- A gift can be a thing like a kitten or jewels. It can also be something that you do for someone or share with another person, such as sharing your lunch with a friend who has forgotten his or her lunch. Name other things that you could do for a friend that would be considered a gift.

## **Follow Up Activities:**

### • **Match the Cats**

#### Materials:

“Match the Cats” worksheet

Crayons

**Directions:** Circle the cat that matches the one in the box on the left.

### • **Making Boats**

#### Materials:

Bottle caps, walnut shells, or jar lids (1 per student)

Clay

Toothpicks (1 per student)

Paper

Scissor

Crayons

Tub or large container of water

**Directions:** Students:

1. place a small amount of clay in the bottle caps, walnut shells, or jar lids.
2. draw a triangle to use as a sail and cut it out.
3. poke the toothpick through the sail and place the toothpick into the clay in the bottle caps, walnut shells, or jar lids.
4. sail their boats in the container of water.

### • **Cats and Rats Tag**

Students play a game of tag with the class divided into cats and rats. Teacher asks students if the rats will chase the cats or the cats will chase the rats. Students switch roles so that each student has a chance to be a cat and a rat. Teacher creates a “mouse hole,” a safe place for the rats to rest.

### • **Making Cinnamon Toast**

#### Materials:

Toaster or oven

Knife

Spoon

Plates

Napkins

#### Ingredients:

Bread

Butter

Cinnamon

Sugar



## **Follow Up Activities cont.:**

### **Making Cinnamon Toast cont.**

#### **Directions:**

1. Mix cinnamon with sugar.
2. Toast bread and spread with butter.
3. Use spoon to sprinkle half of the toast slices with cinnamon.
4. Cut the toast slices into quarters and serve each student a piece of plain toast and a piece of cinnamon toast.
  - Teacher informs students that cinnamon is a very important spice in recipes from many countries.
  - Teacher leads students in a discussion of how the cinnamon changes the flavor of the toast.
  - Teacher asks students to raise their hands to indicate which slice of toast they liked best.
  - Teacher asks students if they can name other foods that have cinnamon. (applesauce, cookies, cakes...)

#### **Extensions:**

##### **• Parachute Play**

#### **Materials:**

1 large parachute or large light weight sturdy cloth

#### **Directions:**

1. Teacher lays the parachute out on the ground.
2. Teacher chooses a few children (number depends on size of parachute) to be the sailors and go into the middle of the parachute.
3. Remaining students stand around the edge the parachute and hold the edge in their hands.
4. Teacher tells the students to make gentle waves by slowly moving the edges of the parachute up and down.
5. Teacher informs the students that the sailors traveled for many days and a storm is starting to form. Students begin to move the edges of the parachute faster and faster as the storm approaches. This creates bigger waves for the student sailors.
6. Students in the middle can run through the waves or sit as if on a boat.

##### **• Squeak! Squeak! Squeak!**

Make a mouse finger puppet and do a mouse finger play found on Page 26 in *Stories to Play With* (Fujita).

##### **• Compare and Contrast**

- Teacher reads *Fat Cat* (MacDonald). This is a tale about a friendship between a mouse and a cat who are always hungry. Students compare and contrast *Fat Cat* with *Priceless Gifts*.
- Teacher reads *The Magic Apple* (Cleveland). This story features three brothers. The youngest brother gives away his most precious possession and finds true happiness. Students compare and contrast *The Magic Apple* and *Priceless Gifts*.

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Match the Cats

Directions: Circle the cat that matches the one in the box on the left.

			
			
			