



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT™
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

**PROJECT
CORNERSTONE**
A YMCA of Silicon Valley Initiative

PRESCHOOL/TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN LESSON #7

Book Fiesta!

By Pat Mora

ASSET FOCUS: Commitment to Learning

This developmental asset category focuses on making learning fun and productive. Preschoolers need to feel challenged but not overwhelmed. It is important to keep learning in balance with their interests and developmental abilities. Giving preschoolers a well balanced introduction to learning will cultivate a lifelong interest in learning.

1. Engagement in learning experiences: The child fully participates in a variety of activities that offer opportunities for learning. (#22)
2. Early literacy: The child enjoys a variety of pre-reading activities, including adults reading to him or her daily, looking at and handling books, playing with a variety of media, and showing interest in pictures, letters and numbers. (#25)

INTRODUCTION

- Say, "I see my friends." Sing, "Good morning, good morning, it's Project Cornerstone time!"
- Say, "Now I want you to sing back to me. Good morning, good morning, it's PC time!"

WARM UP

- Ask students to show you they are ready to listen to the story. Remind them to get into a listening position: Eyes forward looking at you, hands in lap, and legs in criss-cross applesauce. Listening ears on, ready, set, start!
- Ask the students, "What are our ABC rules? Let's say them together: "We listen. We take turns speaking. We are nice to each other."

BOOK

This book is a bilingual book. It would be best to read in one language at one time and then read in the second language at a different time.

Read the title of the book. Ask the students,

- Do you know what fiesta means?
- What do you think a book fiesta is?

Say, "I like your ideas. Let's see what the book says!" Read the story.

In the book, the author talks about reading in lots of different places. Ask the students:

1. Where do you read stories?
2. What types of books do you read?
3. What is your favorite book/story?

ACTIVITIES

Do a book walk. This works similar to a cakewalk. Collect books that the students have heard for the year or choose books that are new to them. Arrange the books in a circle (on chairs or the rugs). Say to the students, "We are going to do a book walk today. When I play the music, I want you to walk around the circle and when the music stops, you can stop and pick up the book next to you and look at it." Give the students a minute to look at the book. Say, "Ok, everyone stand up! Let's take another walk around the circle." Repeat for 4 to 5 times until the students lose interest.

Say, "Think about your favorite book you saw today. I want you to draw a picture about the book on this paper." Have students draw their picture. Combine drawings to make a book, poster, or banner called "Book Fiesta."

TEACHER EXTENSIONS

- This book has been written to celebrate children's literacy. April 30th is the Day of the Child in Mexico. Pat Mora has combined celebrating children and books on this day. To find out more about this celebration, look at her website. For a full booklet on activities go to www.patmora.com/dia. On this website, there is a booklet that is available to download/print.
- Teach the children the song. Listen to the song at link: <http://www.patmora.com/dia-song/>
- Invite a professional storyteller to teach children how to tell their own stories.
- Have children make their own books. You can make a book patterned after *Book Fiesta* or have students write and create new stories.
- Have a book party to celebrate books.
- Have a book drive to collect gently used books to donate.
- Decorate the school classrooms and hallways with posters of multicultural book covers.
- Have a book parade. Have students dress up as their favorite characters and parade around the classroom or school to fun music.
- Take a field trip to a library or bookstore and listen to story time.
- In the classroom reading corner, display the books that were used during the book walk. Have the students read them to the class pet, stuffed animals, other students etc. Record the readings and send home to parents.