

Johnny Appleseed: Seasons, Health and History

Grade Level: Kindergarten

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Length of Unit: One week

I. ABSTRACT

Johnny Appleseed will be presented integrating science and social studies with literature. In science, we use apples to teach the five senses. The seasons will be introduced using the growth of the apple tree through a year of seasons. The children will be learning about nutrition and the four food groups. The time period in which Johnny Appleseed lived will be discussed; the westward movement of America will be integrated through literature.

II. BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE

- A. *What Your Kindergartner Needs to Know* by E.D. Hirsch
- B. *Johnny Appleseed: MAN AND MYTH* by Robert Price
- C. Teacher Created Materials, *Thematic Unit Apples*

III. RESOURCES

- Aliki, *The Story of Johnny Appleseed*
Disney, Walt, *Johnny Appleseed American Classics*
Disney, Walt, *Johnny Appleseed A Little Golden Book*
Disney, Walt, *Johnny Appleseed Video*
Gibbons, Gail, *The Season's of Arnold's Apple Tree*
Hirsch, Jr. E.D. *What Your Kindergartner Needs to Know*
Hodges, Margaret, *The True Tale of Johnny Appleseed*
Hunt, Mabel Leigh, *Better Known As Johnny Appleseed*
Kellogg, Steven, *Johnny Appleseed A Tall Tale Retold*
Lenski, Leo, *Now It's Fall*
Lindberg, Reeve, *Johnny Appleseed*
Price, Robert, *Man and Myth*
Schaffer, Frank, *SCHOOLDAYS*, September/October 1984 Seasons
Silverstein, Shel, *The Giving Tree*
Teacher Created Materials, *Thematic Unit Apples*

V. LESSONS

A. Introduce John Chapman/Johnny Appleseed (Day One)

1. Lesson Content:

Read the poem *Johnny Appleseed* by Reeve Lindbergh. Give the children background information about Johnny Appleseed.

2. Lesson Objective: Distinguish between real and make-believe.
3. Skill Objective: Explain to the children about "long ago."

B. List Materials

1. United States map
2. Overhead transparency
3. Books about Johnny Appleseed

C. Key Vocabulary

1. Colonial times
 2. Orchard
 3. Settlers
 4. Wilderness
 5. Covered wagons
 6. Westward
 7. *Do Unto Others as You Would Have Them Do Unto You*
- D. Procedures
1. Read a poem by Reeve Lindbergh, *Johnny Appleseed*. Talk about the author and illustrator and show and discuss the parts of the book.
 2. Show the map of the United States and explain where Johnny Appleseed was born and where he planted apple trees as he moved toward Ohio and Indiana.
 3. Explain to the children how people lived in “olden times” without electricity or running water.
 4. Discuss Johnny Appleseed’s belief in helping others and use the saying *Do unto others as you would have them do unto you*.
 5. Explain a tall tale or an exaggeration. Discuss what is real or make-believe.
 6. Teach songs: *Time and Seasons*, 1984 Jenson Publications Inc.
- F. Evaluation
1. The children will sequence a three part story of the events occurring as Johnny Appleseed traveled to the west.
- G. Test
1. The children will color the map of Johnny Appleseed’s journey.

Lesson Two (Day Two)

- A. Identify different kinds of apples
1. Identify by name and taste. Graph by using the five senses.
 2. Distinguish between different kinds of apples by using the five senses.
 3. Classify different kinds of apples by their attributes.
- B. List Materials
1. Pictures of apples
 2. Different apples to taste
 3. Graph
 4. Chart paper
 5. Apple corer
 6. White board
- C. Vocabulary
1. Empire
 2. Crispin
 3. Gala
 4. Cortland
 5. Golden Delicious
 6. Jonagold
 7. Red Delicious
 8. Fuji
 9. McIntosh
 10. Granny Smith
 11. Rome

12. Half
13. Sections
14. Eighths
- D. Procedures
 1. Show the children pictures of different kinds of apples. Cut the apples with an apple corer and talk about the taste, smell, and color of the apples. Count the sections and talk about how many apples we would need if the corer cut eight sections. Talk about half and whole. Look at the seeds and count how many in the different kinds of cores. Show the children the star in the core if the apple is cut horizontally. Graph by color, taste, and smell. Describe if the apples are juicy or crunchy. The children will rename the different kinds of apples.
- G.1. Use page 42 of Teacher Created Materials, *Thematic Unit A Apples* to graph different apples using the five senses.

Lesson Three (Day Three)

- A. Planting the Apple Tree
 1. Lesson Content: Have the children plant from the apples they tasted.
 2. Lesson Objective: Compare apple seeds to other kinds of seeds.
 3. Skill Objective: Sequence the planting of an apple tree
- B. Materials
 1. Potting soil
 2. Plastic see through cups
 3. Apple seeds
 4. Orange seeds
 5. Grapefruit seeds
 6. Avocado seed
 7. Pumpkin seed
 8. Water
 9. Popsicle stick for name on plant
 10. Newspaper
- C. Vocabulary
 1. Potting soil
 2. Different seeds
- D. Procedure
 1. Have the children plant seeds from the apples they have tasted. Read Walt Disney's *Johnny Appleseed* and watch the Walt Disney video *Johnny Appleseed*. Start the graph to begin a daily record of the growth of the seeds.
- E. Evaluation

Use the Teacher Created Materials, Inc *Thematic Unit Apples* page 16 "From Seed to Apple" flap book
- F. Sequence the planting of an apple tree

Lesson Four (Day Four)

- A. Sequence the Growth Through the Seasons
 1. Lesson Content: Read *The Seasons of Arnold's Apple Tree* by Gail Gibbons.
 2. Lesson Objective: Discuss the four seasons.
 3. Skill Objective: See the growth of the apple tree through the seasons.
- B. List Materials
 1. Gail Gibbons, *The Seasons of Arnold's Apple Tree*.

- 2. Pictures of the seasons
- D. Vocabulary
 - 1. Summer
 - 2. Spring
 - 3. Fall
 - 4. Winter
 - 5. Blossom
 - 6. Bud
 - 7. Pollinate
 - 8. Flower
 - 9. Petal
 - 10. Filament
- E. Procedure
 - 1. Read the book, *The Seasons of Arnold's Apple Tree* by Gail Gibbons. Discuss the four seasons. Sing *Times and Seasons*, 1984 Jenson
- F. Evaluation
 - 1. Draw the four seasons from an outline of a tree
- G. Test
 - 1. The children will need to name and describe the four seasons.

Lesson Five (Day Five)

- A. Apple Products
 - 1. Lesson Content: List all of the products that can be made from apples.
 - 2. Lesson Objective: Learn that many products can be made from apples.
 - 3. Skill Objective: The children can name many apple products. The children will make applesauce.
- B. List Materials
 - 1. Crock pot
 - 2. Corer
 - 3. Plastic knives
 - 4. Cinnamon
 - 5. Sugar
- C. Vocabulary
 - 1. Apple fritter
 - 2. Apple tart
 - 3. Apple juice
 - 4. Apple butter
 - 5. Apple pie
 - 6. Apple cobbler
 - 7. Apple dumplings
 - 8. Dried apple slices
 - 9. Apple Newtons
 - 10. Applesauce
 - 11. Apple Jacks
- D. Procedure
 - 1. Under the supervision of an adult, have small groups of children prepare the apples for cooking. The children will need to wash their hands and the apples. After the apples have been cored, they will be cut up into small pieces. An adult will add cinnamon and sugar. Serve the applesauce to the children when it has cooled.

E. Evaluation

1. Draw pictures of many apple products. Discuss which ones are the favorites. Graph the favorite apple products.

G. Test

1. Graph the apple products.

VII. Handout/Worksheets

Map of the United States

Seasons of the Tree

VIII. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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