



Guided Reading

Games and toys are important parts of children's life. However, good toys are not necessarily expensive or do not even have to be bought with money. Just a little piece of string is enough to bring a lot of fun to the whole family or to friends.

Parents and teachers may use the book "Toy Box With a String Only?", complemented with various exploration activities, to allow children to experience that even an ordinary piece of string can be a fine toy providing countless ways to play with. This is aimed at instilling succinctly in children positive virtues including the values of sharing, cherishing and contentment, etc., and other altruistic values apart from money and wealth.

[Shared Reading Activities for Kindergartens]

Before shared reading:

Connect with children's experiences in daily life through sharing.

- 1) Among the toys you have, which is your favourite one?
- 2) What toy do you most wish to receive?
- 3) What would you do if you receive a toy you don't like?

During shared reading:

Encourage children to reflect on the positive values highlighted in the story through dialogues.

- 1) Do you wish to have as many toys as Sam? Why?
- 2) If you were Tina, would you invite Sam to play together? Why?
- 3) Why do Sam and Tina feel happy for just playing with simple toys?

After shared reading:

Help children strengthen their positive values through reflection and sharing of personal experiences.

- 1) Did Sam find his favourite toy at the end? Is there anything special about it?
- 2) If you were Sam, whom would you be most eager to play with?

Extended learning activities:

Help children realise that simple toys can also be of much fun through exploration.

- 1) Nursery and K1 students can play group game "String Railway" under teacher's guidance.
- 2) Teach K2 and K3 students to play "Cat's Cradle" and rope jumping.
- 3) Place the strings in play area for children to play their self-invented games during Free Play.



[Shared Reading Activities for Primary Schools]

Before shared reading:

Connect with children's experiences in daily life through sharing.

- 1) What is your favourite toy / game?
- 2) What kind of toys do you consider to be fun? (For example: luminous, sound-producing, exceptionally expensive, can be played with friends)
- 3) What kind of toys or games do not cost any money? Are they fun?

During shared reading:

Encourage children to reflect on the positive values highlighted in the story through dialogues.

- 1) Why is Sam unhappy even though he has lots of toys?
- 2) What are the differences between Sam's toys and those of Tina's?
- 3) Why is Tina happy to play with DIY toys?

After shared reading:

Help children strengthen their positive values through reflection and sharing of personal experiences.

- 1) Would you like to be Sam or Tina? Why?
- 2) If you can give a toy to Sam as a present, what would you give him?
- 3) If you were Sam, what would you say to Tina?
- 4) If you were Sam, what would you say to your parents?

Extended learning activities:

Help children realise that simple toys can also be of much fun through exploration.

- 1) Teach children to play "Cat's Cradle" and rope jumping.
- 2) Group-game-design activity I: Different types of strings (long, short, thick, thin) are provided for children to design games with the strings for sharing with playmates.
- 3) Group-game-design activity II: Different types of recycled plastic bags / surplus materials are provided for children to make handicrafts with the plastic bags or to design games with the surplus materials for sharing with playmates.

Remarks:

Remember to remind children of the importance of safety when playing games!

