

Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus Fun Activities and Book Suggestions for Families

Science:

Neighborhood Bird Watch

Go on a walk around your neighborhood or in a nearby park. Have your child close their eyes and listen for bird calls. How many different kinds of birds can they hear? Can they imitate the bird calls?



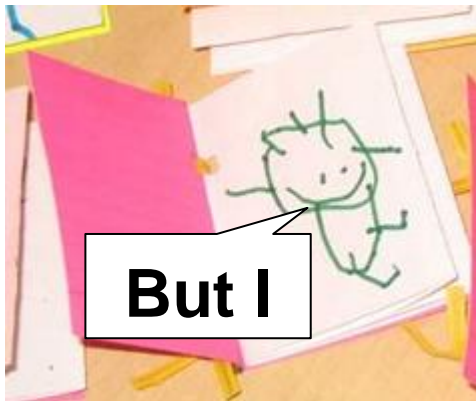
Fun with Food:



Pigeon Finally Drives the Bus! Graham Cracker Snack

1. In a small bowl, mix cream cheese with yellow food coloring. Spread a thin layer of the yellow cream cheese on a graham cracker.
2. Take some Golden Graham or other square cereal and place a few on the graham cracker to make the windows for the bus.
3. Next, split a mini Oreo cookie and place the two halves on the graham cracker for the wheels.
4. For Pigeon's head, mix a little cream cheese with blue food coloring and spread it on another mini Oreo cookie. Place it onto the graham cracker.
5. For the eye, take a small chocolate chip. Dab a little white cream cheese on the pointed part and place it on Pigeon's head.
6. Finally, take a yellow Starburst and soften it in the microwave for about 10 seconds. Tear a little piece off, mold it into a beak, and place it on Pigeon's head.

Arts and Crafts:



Make Your Own “Don’t Let the Pigeon” Story

There are so many things the pigeon shouldn’t be allowed to do – build a skyscraper, go to outer space, be the mayor... What else? With your child, write a book in which the pigeon tries to do something and we don’t let it. You’ll need a few sheets of paper, a pen, and some crayons or markers. On each page, your child draws the illustration and you write the words. When you’re finished, staple the pages together and read the book aloud to your child.

Music and Movement:

“The Wheels on the Bus” https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ki_R_4FcFK0

“Doin’ the Pigeon” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VDJsgtoizj8>

Literacy:

Rhyme and Jump

- You and your child stand on opposite sides of the room.
- Say a sentence that starts with “Don’t let the pigeon drive the...” and ends with some kind of vehicle – train, bike, ship, car, plane, truck, tram, etc.
- Your child has to say a word that rhymes with that vehicle. For *train*, they might say *rain* or *gain*, for example. When they say a rhyming word, they get to jump once towards you. If they say more than one, they can take more jumps.
- Once your child gets all the way to your side of the room, you can give each other a giant hug or high-five or whatever feels good. You can play the game again and again until you run out of vehicles and rhymes.

If you and your child enjoyed *Don’t Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus*, check out these books too:

- *The Staring Contest* by Nicholas Solis
- *This Book Just Ate My Dog!* by Richard Byrne
- *How to Count to 1* by Casper Salmon
- *Knuffle Bunny: A Cautionary Tale* by Mo Willems (and two other Knuffle Bunny books)
- *I am Invited to a Party!* by Mo Willems (and other Elephant & Piggie books)