

The Little Mouse, the Red Ripe Strawberry, and the Big Hungry Bear **Fun Activities and Book Suggestions for Families**

Math:

Big & Small

Use *The Little Mouse, the Red Ripe Strawberry, and the Big Hungry Bear* to reinforce the concepts of big and small with this activity.

Give your child pictures of other big and small things to practice sorting. You can find pictures in magazines and store circulars. Another easy idea is to have your child fold a piece of paper in half and draw one or two small things on one side and one or two big things on the other.

Strawberry Tasting

Let your child taste some strawberries in different ways. Give them fresh strawberries, frozen strawberries and strawberry jelly or jam to taste. Then give your child a strawberry-shaped paper to put on a chart showing his/her favorite type of strawberry. Discuss the results.

Halves

In the book, the mouse cut the strawberry in half. Discuss halves with your child. At lunchtime, reinforce the concept with a sandwich and fruit. Cut them in half and present the halves. Show how 2 halves make a whole.

Art:

Handprint and Fingerprint Fun



Using red, green, black, gray, and green paint, have your child make a strawberry out of his/her handprint. Your child can also make a mouse using his/her thumbprint. Your child's pinky finger can be used to make the strawberry seeds and the eyes and nose on the mouse.

Fun with Food:

Fruit Salad



Make a fruit salad with your child. You can also talk about halves again. Give your child a plastic knife and let them cut some soft fruit in half (strawberries, grapes, etc.).

If you and your child enjoyed reading *The Little Mouse, the Red Ripe Strawberry, and the Big Hungry Bear*, be sure to check out these books too:

- *Should I Share My Ice Cream?*, by Mo Willems
- *Too Many Carrots*, by Katy Hudson
- *The Bear Ate Your Sandwich*, by Julia Sarcone-Roach