

Pawsitively Purrfect Reading Adventures!

Materials Needed:

- A simple, age-appropriate fiction picture book about a cat
- Construction paper (various colors)
- Child-safe scissors
- Glue stick
- Crayons or markers
- Optional: Googly eyes
- Optional: Pipe cleaners

Lesson Activities:

1. Introduction: Cat Chat (5 minutes)

Start by talking about cats! Ask your student:

- What do you love most about cats?
- What sounds do cats make? (Practice making meow sounds!)
- How do cats move? (Stretch like a cat!)
- If you had a pet cat, what would you name it?

Say: "Today, we're going to read a fun story all about a cat! While we read, let's pay close attention to what the cat does and what it's like."

2. Read Aloud: Story Time! (10-15 minutes)

Read the chosen cat story aloud with enthusiasm. Use different voices for characters if applicable. Pause occasionally to point at pictures or ask simple prediction questions like, "What do you think the cat will do next?" Show the pictures clearly as you read.

3. Comprehension Check: Paws for Thought (5-10 minutes)

After reading, discuss the story using simple questions:

- Who was the main character in our story? (Help identify the cat).
- What was one thing the cat did in the story?
- Can you tell me something about the cat? Was the cat sleepy? Playful? Curious? Silly? (Guide towards identifying a simple character trait).
- What happened first in the story? What happened near the end? (Focus on one or two key events).
- Did you like the story? Why or why not?

4. Activity: Crafty Cat Creation (15-20 minutes)

Let's make our own cat based on the story or just a fun cat!

1. **Head:** Cut out a medium-sized circle from construction paper (black, white, orange, grey - student's choice!).
2. **Ears:** Cut out two triangle shapes for ears. Cut smaller triangles from pink paper for the inside of the ears. Glue the inner ear onto the larger triangle, then glue the finished ears to the top of the head circle.
3. **Eyes:** Draw eyes with crayons/markers, or glue on googly eyes.
4. **Nose & Mouth:** Cut a small pink triangle for the nose and glue it on. Draw a mouth (like a 'w' shape under the nose).
5. **Whiskers:** Draw whiskers with a crayon/marker, or cut short pieces of pipe cleaner or thin strips of black/white paper and glue them on either side of the nose.
6. **Optional Details:** Add stripes, spots, or a collar with crayons or markers.

While crafting, talk about the cat character from the story again or have the student describe the cat they are creating.

5. Wrap-up: Show and Tell (5 minutes)

Have the student show off their crafty cat creation! Ask them to name their cat and tell you one thing about it (e.g., "This is Whiskers, and he is a playful cat just like the one in the story!"). Praise their listening during the story and their creative work on the craft.