Childhood Stories and Reading Time
LLC Thematic Unit

Greater Pittsburgh Literacy Council’s
“Families for Learning Center”
Prospect Park

Beginning-Level/Low Intermediate Level

By Rose A. Marotta, MA TESL
Greater Pittsburgh Literacy Council
1450 Maple Drive Apt 18
Pittsburgh, PA 15227
Lay Doh Paw:

In the beginning, there was only one elephant. It was a big elephant. There was only one elephant in the forest. He had no friends. He did not want to be friends with small animals. The small animals were scared of him.

There was a dog and his owner. The dog's owner died. He was the dog's only friend. The dog asked the elephant to be his friend. The elephant said, “No,” and hit him with his trunk. The dog went to the bird. The bird said, “Don’t worry, we will be friends.”

The bird met with the fly. The bird, the fly, and the dog became friends. They studied together. One day they saw the elephant. The bird went to the elephant and bit his ear. The fly laid an egg on the elephant’s ear. The elephant could not see nor hear. The elephant dies. The three friends were happy.

A. Answer the questions below.

1. Where does the elephant live?

2. Who wanted to be the elephant’s friend?

3. Why did the dog go to the bird?

4. What does the bird bite?

5. What happens to the elephant?

AS A GROUP: What is a good title for this story?

Write the title on the line under the elephant.
B. Subject and Verb Practice. Write S for subject and V for verb in each sentence. Example: (S) (V)
   The cat sits on the couch.

1. The dog went to the bird.
2. The elephant said, “No!”
3. The bird met the fly.
4. The fly laid an egg.
5. The elephant dies.

C. Using the past tense. **There was… There were…** Which is correct?

1. **There was/ There were** a big elephant.
2. **There was/ There were** small animals in the forest.
3. **There was/ There were** a fly.
4. **There was/There were** three friends.

D. Match the verbs in the present and past tense.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Present Tense Verbs:</th>
<th>Past Tense Verbs:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>do</td>
<td>went</td>
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<tr>
<td>say</td>
<td>died</td>
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<tr>
<td>die</td>
<td>did</td>
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<td>ask</td>
<td>laid</td>
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<tr>
<td>go</td>
<td>asked</td>
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<td>see</td>
<td>said</td>
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<tr>
<td>lay</td>
<td>bit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bite</td>
<td>saw</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
E. Fill in the blank with the correct past tense verb. Use a verb from the list on the previous page.

1. I ________ into an apple.
2. I ________ the bus outside.
3. I ________ to the store.
4. I ________ my teacher a question.
5. I ________ “Hello,” to my friend.

F. Describing Animals: Elephant, Dog, Bird, Fly
(color, size, sounds, eats)

Elephant

Dog

Bird

Fly

_________________      ________________
_________________      ________________
_________________      ________________
_________________      ________________

________________      _______________
________________      _______________
________________      _______________
________________      _______________
FEELINGS OF ANGER

When asked about feelings of anger, our students replied:

“I yell.”
“I cry.”
“I need to be alone.”
“I scream.”
“I speak a lot and sometimes I hit my child.”

How often do you feel angry?

What makes you angry?
PICTURE DICTIONARY

scream  yell  cry

kick  hit  stomp

be alone  fight  mean
Find Someone Who...

*Which classmate does one of the following when he/she feels angry? Write his/her name in the box. One name per box please.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>scream</th>
<th>yell</th>
<th>cry</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>kick</td>
<td>hit</td>
<td>stomp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>like to be alone</td>
<td>fight</td>
<td>get mean</td>
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<td>?</td>
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<td>?</td>
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</table>

Example question:

“Do you **cry** when you are angry?”  
Y  N

Example response to the teacher:

“Rose **cries** when she is angry.”

**Name**  **verb-3rd person**
Write the name of your youngest child below.

____________________________

What does he/she do when he/she is angry?

________________________________.

What do you do when your child gets angry?

__________________________________.

IMITATING BEHAVIOR

Did you know that if you hit when you are angry, your child will hit when he/she is angry too?! This is called imitating behavior.

1. What other kinds of behaviors does your child imitate?

My child imitates me when he/she ____________________
______________________________________________
______________________________________________.

2. Are the imitated behaviors good or bad? Make a list.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Good Behaviors</th>
<th>Bad Behaviors</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>______________</td>
<td>______________</td>
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<td>______________</td>
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</table>
WHEN ANGER TURNS TO VIOLENCE

Sometimes anger can turn to violence. An angry and violent person can be dangerous. He/She can hurt someone very badly. When he/she has violent behavior very often, he/she is abusive to others.

When this happens, who do you contact?
a friend a family member the police

Make an Emergency Contact Sheet below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
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<tbody>
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</table>

WITH YOUR TEACHER:
Look in the phone book and find the name and number of the local Child Abuse Hotline.
_________________   _______________

ROLE PLAY:
Design a practice dialog between a caller and a Child Abuse operator with a partner and your teacher. Practice it with your family at home.
WHAT DO YOU REMEMBER?

Circle the correct answer below:

1. In the story, who wanted a friend?
   Elephant   Bird   Dog

2. In the story, which animal bit the elephant’s ear?
   Elephant   Bird   Dog

3. In the story, which animal was the biggest in the forest?
   ________________________________
   Elephant   Bird   Dog

Fill in the blank using There is/ There are:

1. ____________________________ one teacher.
2. ____________________________ 10 students.

Finish the sentence: (using 1st and 3rd person point of view)

1. When I feel angry I ____________________.

2. When my child feels angry he/she ________________.

Give an example of an imitated behavior.
Example 1: My child brushes her hair after I brush my hair.

______________________________________________________.

Write the name and phone number of an emergency contact person below:

______________________    ___ ________________
   (Name)        (Phone)
Sudanese Oral Traditional Story

Title

Jenet Kenyi Sasuk:

A mouse has a big farm. He had peanut butter on the farm. He had lots of peanut butter on the farm. He didn’t share the peanut butter. It was all for himself. When other people came, he said, “This is for me. I work by myself, I eat by myself. No one does the work for me. I do it alone.”

One time after the mouse ate too much peanut butter, his stomach got really big. His stomach ripped open and he died.

A. Answer the following questions.

1. Who is the main character of the story? ________________________
2. What does the mouse have on his farm? ________________________
3. How much peanut butter does he have? ________________________
4. Does he share the peanut butter? ________________________
5. Who does he work with on his farm? ________________________
6. What happened to his stomach? ________________________

AS A GROUP: What is a good title for this story?
Write the title on the line at the top of the page.

B. Finish the sentences.

My favorite food is ____________________________.

I eat _________________ a lot/ sometimes/ rarely.

I share ___________________ with my children.

I do not share ___________________ with my children.

I like to ___________________ alone.
C. *Past Tense Verb Practice.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Present</th>
<th>Past</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| have    | _______
| do      | _______
| be      | _______
| come    | _______
| eat     | _______

_______    worked
_______    ripped

---

E. *ILA (Interactive Literacy Activity) with your Children.*

**What goes well with peanut butter?**

Try peanut butter with: Celery
Apples
Bananas
Bread
Crackers
Pretzels
_______
_______
_______
Thu:

“My husband shares a lot of things with me. I have a new job. I need a car to go to work. He shares his car with me.”

Nay Nwoi:

“When I was young I shared clothes with my friend. My children bring candy home from school. They share the candy with me.”

Achok:

“Long time ago, I lived with my friend. My friend and I shared food and juice. We also shared ideas together. Now, my husband and I share money from his paycheck.”

What do these three women have in common?

Who do they share with?

What do they share with others?

When do you teach your children how to share?
PICTURE DICTIONARY
Things We Share

- Money
- Clothes
- Candy
- Food
- Toys
- Pencils
- Cars
- Telephone
SHARING WITH OTHERS:
In the first column, list the people you share with.
In the second column, list the things you share with them.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Who do you share with?</th>
<th>What do you share?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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</tbody>
</table>
**Teacher Rose’s Sharing List:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Who I share food with…</th>
<th>I share…</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>my friend, Angela</td>
<td>clothes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>my fiancé, John</td>
<td>food</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>my nephew, Caius</td>
<td>toys and books</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>my mom</td>
<td>jewelry</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Example Sentence:*

I share clothes with my friend, Angela.
I share jewelry with my mom.

*Write three sentences from your sharing list below.*

1. __________________________________________
2. __________________________________________
3. __________________________________________

*Share your sentences with a partner.*
Playing with Language:
*Match the present tense verb with the past tense verb.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Present Tense</th>
<th>Past Tense</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>share</td>
<td>brought</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>have</td>
<td>shared</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>need</td>
<td>lived</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bring</td>
<td>needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>live</td>
<td>had</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Fill in the Blank with the correct verb from the stories.*

1. My children __________ candy home from school.
2. Long time ago, I ___________ with my friend.
3. I __________ a car to go to work.
4. When I was young, I ___________ clothes with my friend.
5. I __________ a new job.

*Which sentences are present? (Write the sentence number)*

____________  ____________  ____________

*Which sentences are past? (Write the sentence number)*

____________  ____________
**Student Story: SHARING**

Tell me a story about sharing. When did someone share something with you? What do you share with others?

_________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________.

**LOOKING BACK:**

Complete the KWL Chart below. Think about what you’ve read/discussed about this lesson.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What did you KNOW about the topic before this lesson?</th>
<th>What do you WANT to know more about?</th>
<th>What have you LEARNED?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

What did you like most about the lesson?

_________________________________________________________

What did you not like about this lesson?

_________________________________________________________.