Cover Sheet - For the Presenter

The following storyhour program is designed for preschoolers (primarily 3 and 4-year-olds).

You don't have to read the leader's comments word-for-word, but try to include the information in your own words especially the asides to the parents. The information that is just for you is in *italics* – so don't read that text.

The general outline of our storytime is:

- I. Opening Song
- II. Welcome/Introductory Comments
- III. Song/Rhyme
- IV. Flannel Board Activity Counting Rhyme
- V. Quieting rhyme
- VI. Book
- VII. Song
- VIII. Book
- IX. Closing Rhyme

Feel free to substitute your own opening and closing rhymes as well as any rhymes with a similar theme that the children have heard before. Repetition of songs and action rhymes from previous storytimes is better than introducing all new ones. You may wish to enlarge some of the rhymes so that caregivers can join in.

For this storytime, it would be fun to wear a straw hat and overalls or to make a real scarecrow to place next to you.

We suggest the following props to enhance your storytime:

- *Flannel board cut-outs.
- *Some of the rhymes in large print to help the adults join in.
- * Crafts to offer after your storytime has officially ended.
- *Take-home materials.

Scarecrows

Opening Song (to the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb.")

Come on in it's storytime
Storytime
Storytime
Come on in it's storytime
We're happy that you're here.

Sit right down for storytime Storytime Storytime Sit right down for storytime We'll have a lot of fun

Settle in for storytime Storytime Storytime Settle in for storytime We're ready to begin.

(Repeat the first two verses several times if necessary as children are arriving. Then add the third verse)

Introduction

Welcome to storytime. I am glad you could all be here today. We are going to be sharing some rhymes and books about scarecrows. Does everyone know what a scarecrow is? (Show a picture and explain briefly that scarecrows are used to scare birds away from the farmer's crops.)

To the caregivers:

Please join in the fun by saying the rhymes and singing along with us.

Let's start with a simple song. You might recognize the tune.

Song/Rhyme (This song is patterned after "Frosty the Snowman." Use the flannelboard pieces provided to create Scratchy the Scarecrow's head as you sing the first verse. Note: You may wish to discuss the meaning of some words - especially "burlap." You might ask the children why "Scratchy" is a good name for a scarecrow.)

Scratchy the scarecrow
Was as nice as he could be
With two button eyes and a button nose
And a smile for you and me

Scratchy the scarecrow
Is just made of straw they say.
All dressed in rags
And burlap bags
He just stands in the field all day.

But we think it's kind of magic How he can scare a crow. I bet he waves those arms about When no one's there to know.

Scratchy the scarecrow
Is just made of straw they say.
All dressed in rags
And burlap bags
He just stands in the field all day.

Flannel Board Activity - Counting Rhyme

(Print several of the crow shapes provided. Put up a few and say the counting rhyme. Then change the number and say the rhyme again.)

Out in the field where the yellow corn grows
There was a scarecrow with a button for his nose.
He waved his arms and feet all day
To scare away the crows who came to play
How many crows did he scare today?
1, 2, 3, 4, 5...

Now it's time to settle down for a story. Let's get all of our wiggles out now:

Quieting Rhyme

I wiggle my fingers,
I wiggle my toes.
I wiggle my arms,
I wiggle my nose.
I think that the wiggles
Are all out of me
Now I can sit down
And hear a story.

Book

Some suggested titles are: <u>Little Scarecrow Boy</u> by Margaret Wise Brown, <u>Scarecrow Pete</u> by Mark Kimball Moulton, <u>Scarecrow</u> by Cynthia Rylant, <u>The Scarecrow's Hat</u> by Ken Brown. Be sure to make the story fun by using different voices and lots of expression.

To the Adults:

We try to keep storytime fun by reading with a lot of expression, using funny voices and so on. Try this when you read aloud at home, too.

Now let's sing about another silly scarecrow. . . .

Song

Dingle Dangle Scarecrow

(Traditional)

For the tune, see http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N1nZco5v9yo.

Have the children squat so that they can jump up. Add some gestures, such as tapping your head when you mention the hat.

When all the cows were sleeping
And the sun had gone to bed,
Up jumped the scarecrow
And this is what he said:
"I'm a dingle-dangle scarecrow
With a flippy-floppy hat.
I can shake my arms like this,
I can shake my legs like that."

When all the hens were roosting,
And the moon, behind a cloud.
Up jumped the scarecrow,
And shouted very loud:
"I'm a dingle-dangle scarecrow
With a flippy-floppy hat.
I can shake my arms like this,
I can shake my legs like that."

[You may substitute one of the Scarecrow rhymes from p. 232 of http://www.educationworld.com/a_earlychildhood/poems/poems031.shtml. These would all make good "extras" to have ready in case you have time.]

Book

Select another book about scarecrows or harvest time from your collection. More suggestions: <u>Six Crows</u> by Leo Lionni, <u>Hello, Harvest Moon</u> by Ralph Fletcher.

To the Adults:

We also allow the children to ask questions and interact with the stories as we read them. Keeping storytime fun motivates your child to want to read for him/ or herself. We call this Print Motivation. [Point to your chart of the 6 Early Literacy Skills if you have one.]

But, sadly it is time to go.

Closing Rhyme

See You Later, Alligator

(Flannelboard artwork for this rhyme is included with the "Snowy Day" Kit.)

See you later, alligator
(use hand to shade your eyes as if searching)
In a while, crocodile
(point to watch or clock)
Bye-bye, butterfly
(wave)
Toodle-oo, kangaroo
(wave hankie)
Time to go, buffalo
(look at watch and shake head as if running late)
Just like that, fat cat
(snap fingers)
It's the end, my friend.
(shrug shoulders and throw up hands in a "giving up" gesture)

To the caregivers:

Feel free to stay a while and do a craft or check out some books to take home. (Point out any brochures or tip sheets that you have on display for parents, etc.)

Crafts:

We like the idea of providing a craft at the end of storyhour. Something simple is fine. This gives parents a chance to visit and it reinforces what the children learned.

A simple coloring page is provided in a separate document. [You will find more good coloring pages at http://www.pheemcfaddell.com/coloring/halloween/H06ColoringScarecrow.html.]

Along with the coloring page, you will also find a cut-and-paste scarecrow activity. This requires a color copier and parent or caregiver help with the cutting.

Or, you can print the face and button pieces for Scratchy the Scarecrow as a cut-and-paste activity. Have the children draw a big smile for Scratchy.

Scarecrows

Take-Home Sheet

Dingle Dangle scarecrow

When all the cows were sleeping
And the sun had gone to bed
Up jumped the scarecrow
And this is what he said
"I'm a dingle, dangle scarecrow
With a flippy floppy hat
I can shake my arms like this
And shake my legs like that."

When the cows were in the meadow
And the pigeons in the loft
Up jumped the scarecrow
And whispered very soft
"I'm a dingle, dangle scarecrow
With a flippy floppy hat
I can shake my arms like this
And shake my legs like that."

When all the hens were roosting
And the moon behind a cloud
Up jumped the scarecrow
And shouted very loud
I'm a dingle, dangle scarecrow
With a flippy floppy hat
I can shake my arms like this
And shake my legs like that



Counting Crows

Parents and caregivers: This is one version of a traditional rhyme for counting crows as a way to tell the future. Your child might enjoy learning it as a counting rhyme. If you happen to see several birds perched on a wire, stop and count those, too!

One for sorrow
Two for joy
Three for a girl
Four for a boy
Five for silver
Six for gold
Seven for a secret, never to be told
Eight for a wish
Nine for a kiss
Ten for a bird you must not miss



