



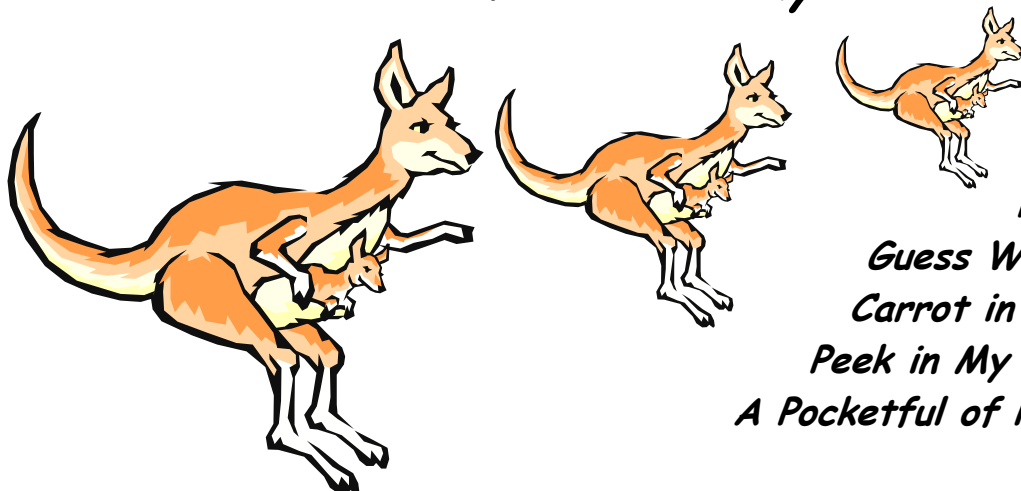
Vol. 21 No. 6

Opening the Gift



February 2018

What's In My Pocket?



BOING by Nick Bruel

Kangaroos by Kate Riggs

Pouch! by David Ezra Stein

Guess Who Hops by Sharon Gordon

Carrot in My Pocket by Kitson Flynn

Peek in My Pocket by David A. Carter

A Pocketful of Pets by Jane Belk Moncure



Nursery Rhyme: A-Tisket, A-Tasket



Songs & Fingerplays to Share

CD: "Kangaroos Hopping" by Russ from *Exercise Party: Stretchin' & Jumpin' Songs for Young Children*

Five Fingers In My Pocket

I've got five fingers in my pocket!
Five fingers hidden away!
Five fingers in my pocket,
Look!
Awww. One went away.

*Continue with "four fingers"...
counting down to "no fingers".*

*Put your "no fingers" hand in your pocket
and sing:*

I've got five fingers in my pocket!
Five fingers hidden away!
Five fingers in my pocket,
Look!
Five fingers here to stay!



Kangaroo, Kangaroo

(Act out the actions)

Kangaroo, kangaroo, bounce up and down.
Kangaroo, kangaroo, touch the ground.
Kangaroo, kangaroo, make your ears go flop.
Kangaroo, kangaroo, now let's hop.
Kangaroo, kangaroo, bend down low.
Kangaroo, kangaroo, now jump just so.
Kangaroo, kangaroo,
here are your great big toes.

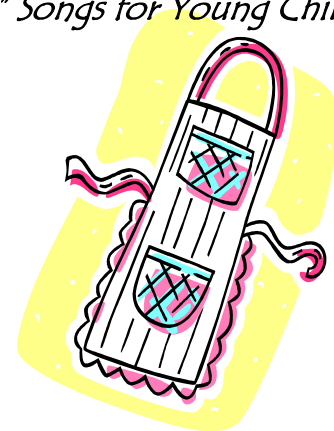
Kangaroo, kangaroo, now here we go!
(hop around in a circle)

Storytimes...Plus! by Kay Lincycumb

The Brown Kangaroo

The brown kangaroo is very funny,
She leaps and runs and hops like a bunny.
(hop)

And on her stomach is a pocket so wide
(put hand on stomach like a pocket)
Her baby can jump in and go for a ride.
(other hand "jumps" into pocket)



Something in My pocket

I've got something in my pocket,
It belongs upon my face.
I keep it very close to me,
In the most convenient place.
I bet you'll never guess it,
If you guess a long, long, while.
So I'll take it out and put it on,
It's a great big happy smile!



Your next visit will be: March _____

Next month's theme will be: "Blow, Wind, Blow"

More Books to Share:

A Sock Is A Pocket For Your Toes by Elizabeth Garton Scanlon
What's In My Pocket, Dear Dragon? by Margaret Hillert
Animals With Pockets by Marie Racanelli
Zip, Zip...Homework by Nancy Poydar
The Pocket Dogs by Margaret Wild
Max Cleans Up by Rosemary Wells



Activity Ideas:

Pocket Predictions: Hang out the laundry to create an estimation activity that's a pocketful of fun! To prepare, clip a pair of shorts with large pockets to a clothes hanger and position it close to your group area. Gather a supply of small manipulatives, such as marbles, pennies, and keys. Invite your little ones to estimate how many of each item will fit inside a pocket: record their guesses. Then fill a pocket with a set of objects and encourage your youngsters to count with you to check their estimates. Empty the pocket and repeat the process with the remaining sets of objects.

Themes from A to Z - 26 Cross-Curricular Theme Units from The Mailbox



Pocket Snack: What is the perfect pocket treat? A pita, of course. Set out a supply of small pita bread halves, sliced cheese, lunch meat, tuna salad, shredded lettuce, etc. and let each child create the Perfect Pocket!

Zip Storage Bag Pocket Book: Take a few bags and staple them together on the permanently sealed end across from the reusable seal. Put duct tape over the staples to create a binding and cover the staples.

Cut some pieces of colored construction paper to fit inside each bag. Then draw pictures or cut out magazine images and put them on both sides of the paper inside the bags. (This is a good way to develop vocabulary skills.) Now you have an ever changing and almost indestructible book to share with your child.

Book of the Month:

A to Z Ready for K: A Complete 35-Week Preschool Curriculum by Susan Ehrhardt PTC 372.21 E
Prepare children for kindergarten with this easy-to-implement preschool curriculum. Each weekly chapter includes early childhood standards, weekly themes, dramatic play and prop suggestions, listening activities and songs, stories, interactive charts and props, circle-time activities, table work, writing center activities, board games, sensory table suggestions, workbench activities, art and craft activities, and lesson plan templates.



Road to Reading Tip:

Show Me Your Muscles! Before preschoolers can start writing, the muscles in their hands and fingers must be strengthened. Provide a dry erase board, dry erase markers and dot markers (Do-a-Dot is one brand). Dry erase boards come in many sizes and can be used either vertically or horizontally on a wall or easel. You can help your children develop their fine motor skills by using these white boards in the classroom, at home, or while traveling.

Large boards encourage big strokes and the use of the entire arm, promoting shoulder stability; they are also great for collaborative group work. And preschoolers really need to squeeze the dot markers to get the liquid to flow onto the board, giving little fingers a big workout! *excerpted from: teaching2and3yearolds.com*

