



# Making Read Alouds Active

— In Preschool —

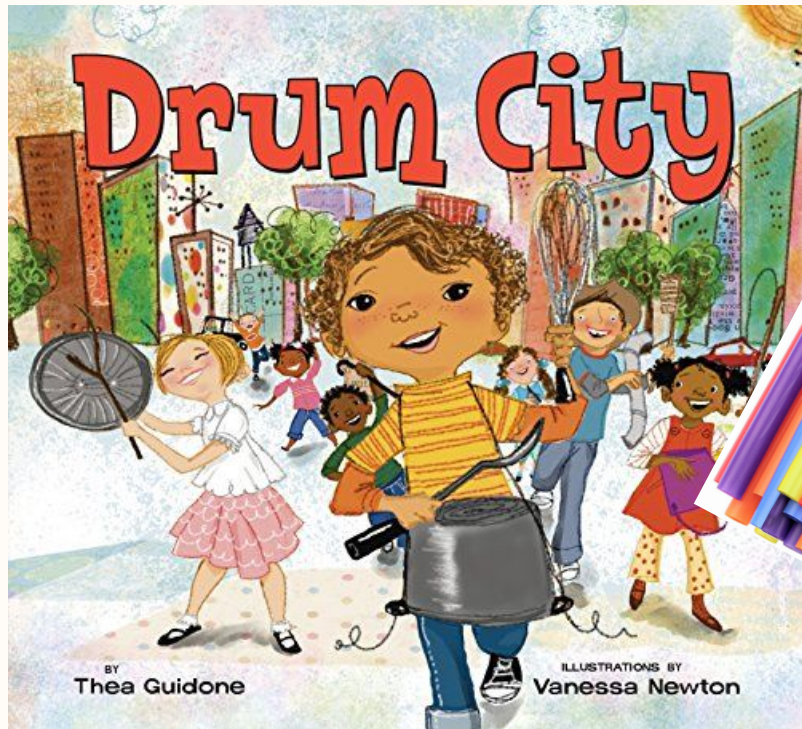
HighScope Conference 2024



## Objectives:

Participants will develop strategies for incorporating books throughout the daily routine and curriculum components.

Participants will develop the ability to create Read Aloud lessons that include all Five Ingredients or Active learning.





# Today's Agenda

**01** Why Read ?

**02** When to Read

Making it **03**  
Active

Practice **04**



01

# Why Read ?

7 Benefits of Reading to Children

Children's Bureau, 2017

# Cognitive Development

"It is the talk that surrounds the reading that gives it power, helping children to bridge what is in the story and their own lives."



# Language Skills

Reading daily supports language acquisition, communication skills, social skills, and literacy skills.





## Academic Success

"the more words that are in a child's language world, the more words they will learn, and the stronger their language skills are when they reach kindergarten, the more prepared they are to be able to read, and the better they read, the more likely they will graduate from high school" (PBS.org).



# Social Emotional Development

Books provide an opportunity to talk about real-world situations in age-appropriate ways.



# Concentration and Discipline

"a stronger self-discipline, longer attention span, and better memory retention, all of which will serve your child well when she enters school."



# Imagination and Creativity

Reading aloud to your child helps them use their imaginations to explore people, places, times, and events beyond their own experiences.



# Cultivating a Lifelong Love of Reading

"Every time we read to a child, we're sending a 'pleasure' message to the child's brain..."



# On a scale from 3-1 how do lessons with books usually look in your classroom?



3

Exciting, perfect,  
everyone participates



2

Some days are better than  
others, but most of the time  
the kids participate



1

Every day is either  
chaos OR totally  
boring!



02

# When to Read



**The Texas PreK Guidelines recommend the use of Flexible Grouping of children throughout the day.**



- One on one
- Large group
- Small group

## One on One

- relationship building
  - builds trust
  - develops a sense of intimacy and well-being
  - leads to meaningful conversations





## Large Group

- builds a sense of community
- sets the stage for the introduction of themes and information about new concepts
- used for review



## Small Group



- one of the most effective ways promote young children's learning
- higher quality attention from teachers
- allows children more opportunity for talking
- provides the teacher opportunities for scaffolding
- encourages hands-on activities and child discovery



A decorative border surrounds the central text area, featuring various colorful books (red, yellow, pink, blue, brown) with simple faces and legs, interspersed with small starburst icons.

# Promoting Optimal Child Outcomes

- Make interactive read alouds a part of the daily routine.
- Carefully plan the read aloud experience.
- Select High quality books representing a variety of genres.
- Identify a focus for each reading.
- **Plan opportunities for children's active engagement.**
- Pay close attention to the children's developmental levels.
- Use scaffolding strategies designed to support and extend children's learning.

Let's Read It Again



# 03

## Making it Active

The Five Ingredients of Active Learning

# Five Ingredients of **Active** Learning

Materials



Language and Thought



Manipulation

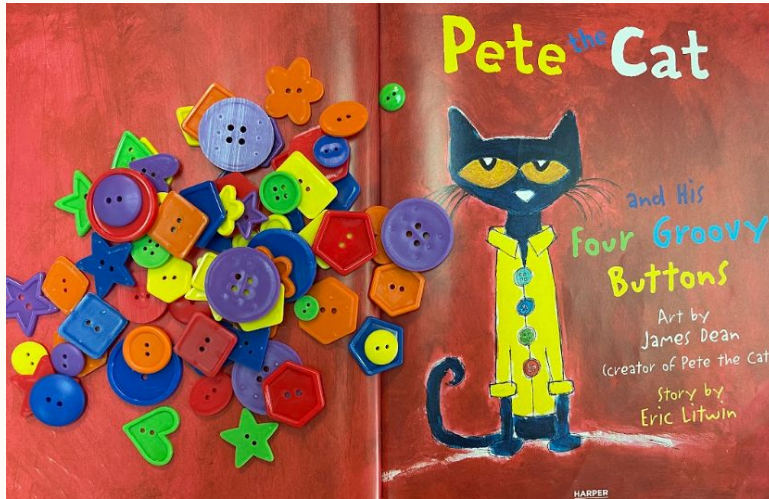


Adult Scaffolding



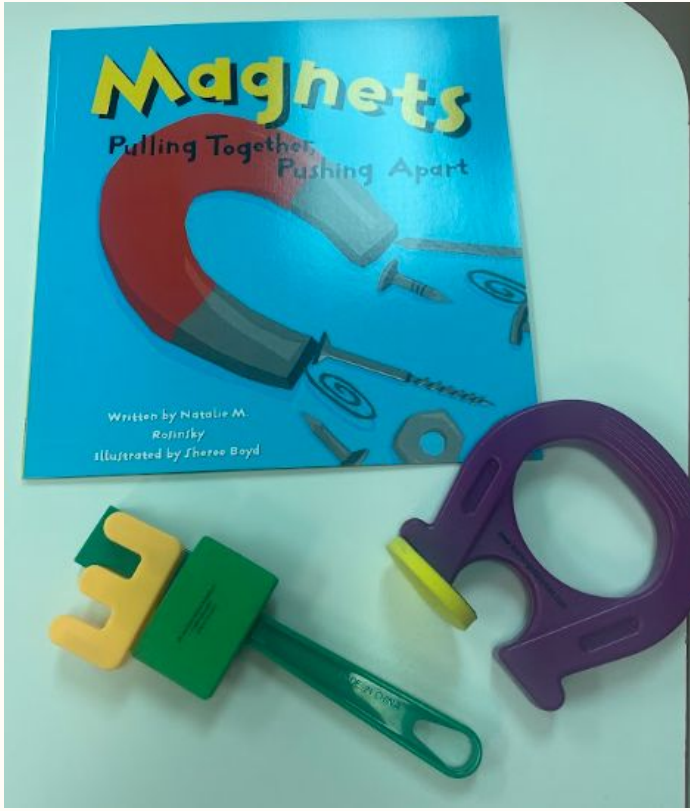
Choice





## Materials

There are abundant, age appropriate materials that the children can use in a variety of ways.



## Manipulation 🔍

The children have opportunities to explore, manipulate, combine, and transform the materials chosen.





## Choice ?

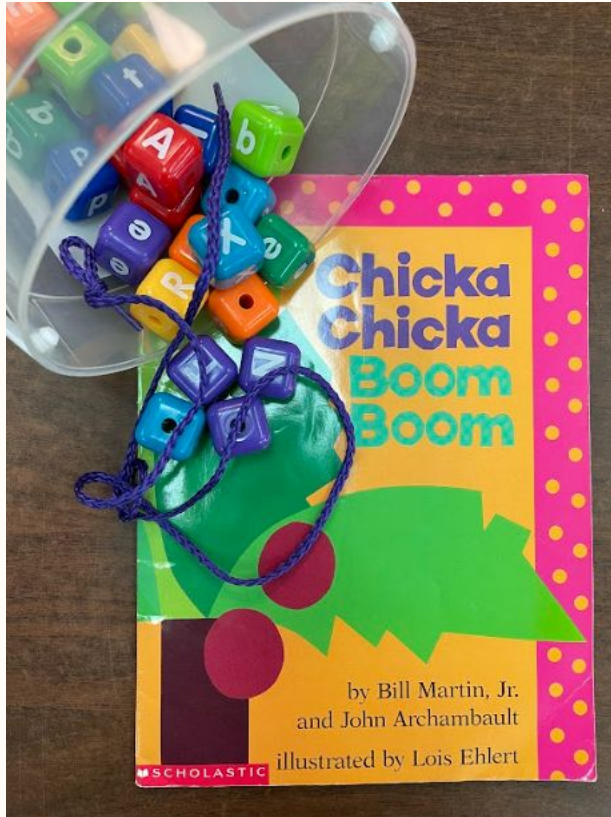
The children have opportunities to choose what to do.



## Child Language and Thought



The children communicate verbally and non-verbally, describing what they are seeing and doing.



## Adult Scaffolding 🧑

We support the children's current level of development and offer gentle extensions as they move to the next developmental stage.

A decorative border surrounds the central text area, featuring various colorful books (red, yellow, pink, blue, brown) with simple faces and legs, interspersed with small starburst patterns.

# Active Learning

**Materials:** Children use their own set of materials

**Manipulation:** Children experiment with the materials, using them in ways that make sense to them.

**Choice:** Children choose what to do with the materials offered based on their personal abilities and interests.

**Child Language and Thought:** Children talk about their ideas and discoveries.

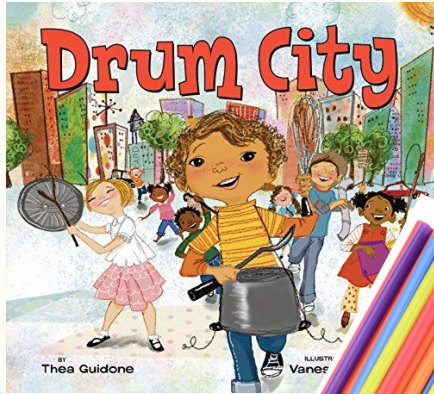
**Adult Scaffolding:** Adults support and gently extend each child's learning.



04

# Practice

The Five Ingredients of Active Learning



- Work with your table group to identify the **Five Ingredients** in my lesson
- Record your answers in your handout.



## When and How?

- Review the materials on your table.
- When would you read the book?
- How would you use the materials to ensure the children are actively engaged?
- Record your answers on the chart paper

# Gallery Walk

Explore the other group's materials and ideas!







- Think of a book you own or have in your classroom.
- When will you use it?
- What materials will you add to engage the children in your program?
- Record your responses in your handout.

# Evaluation

Please take a moment to provide feedback on today's presentation.





# Examples

The Five Ingredients of Active Learning

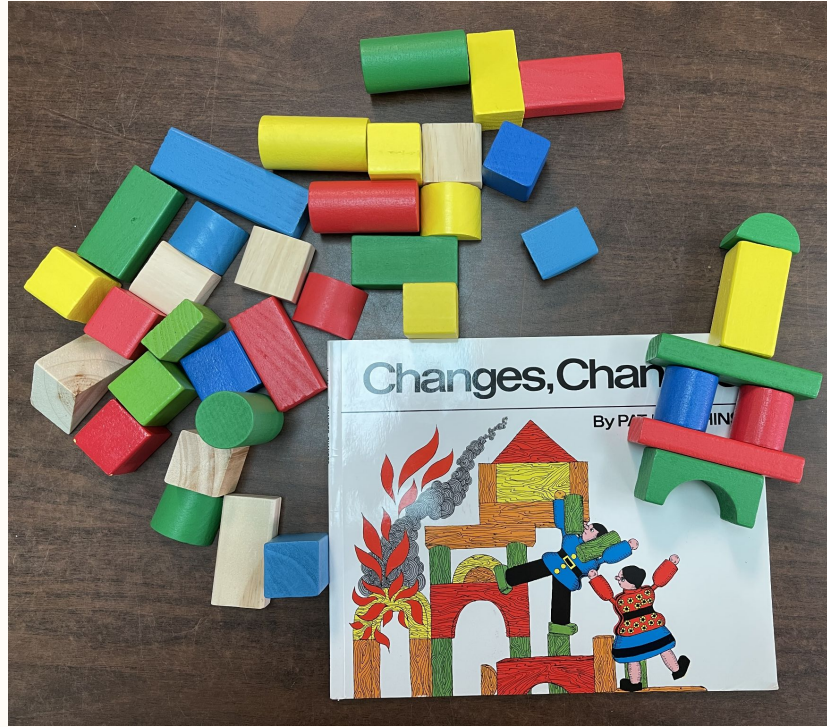
# I Ain't Gonna Paint No More!

Karen B. Kumon

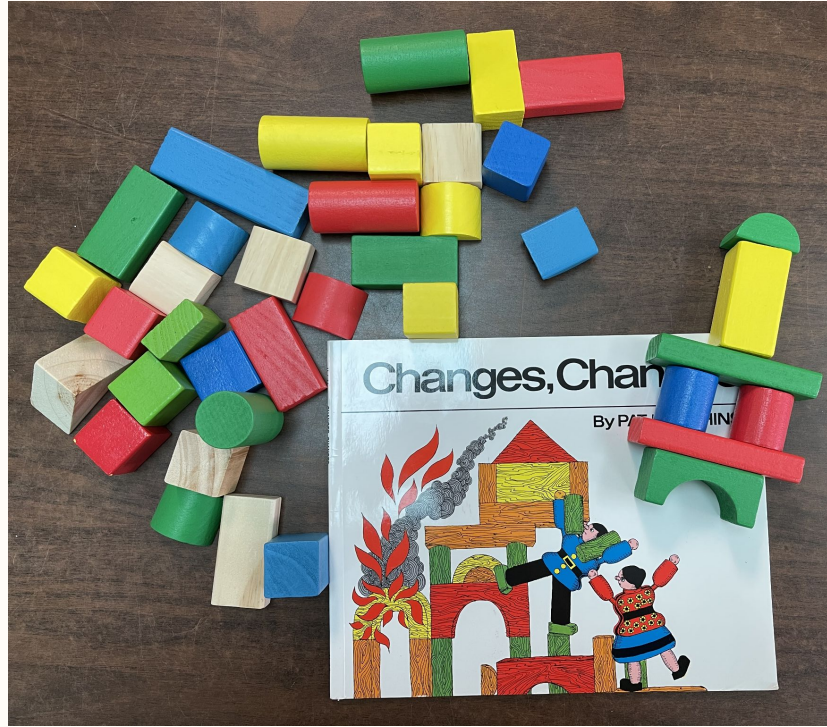


Illustrated by  
David Catlett

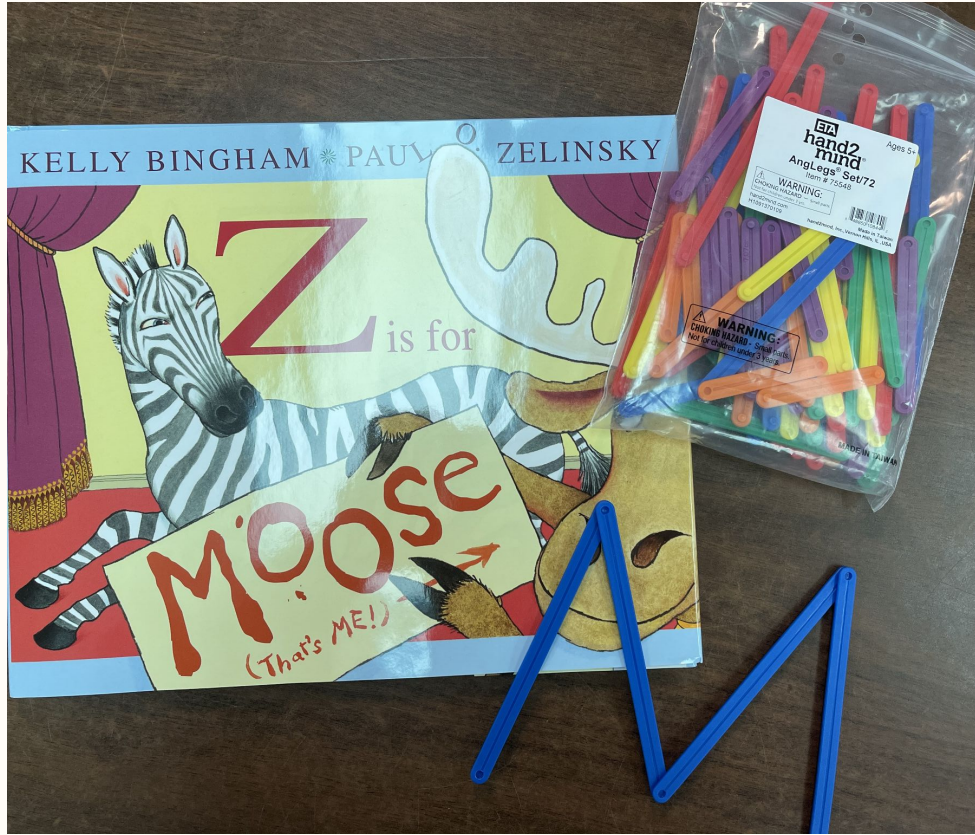


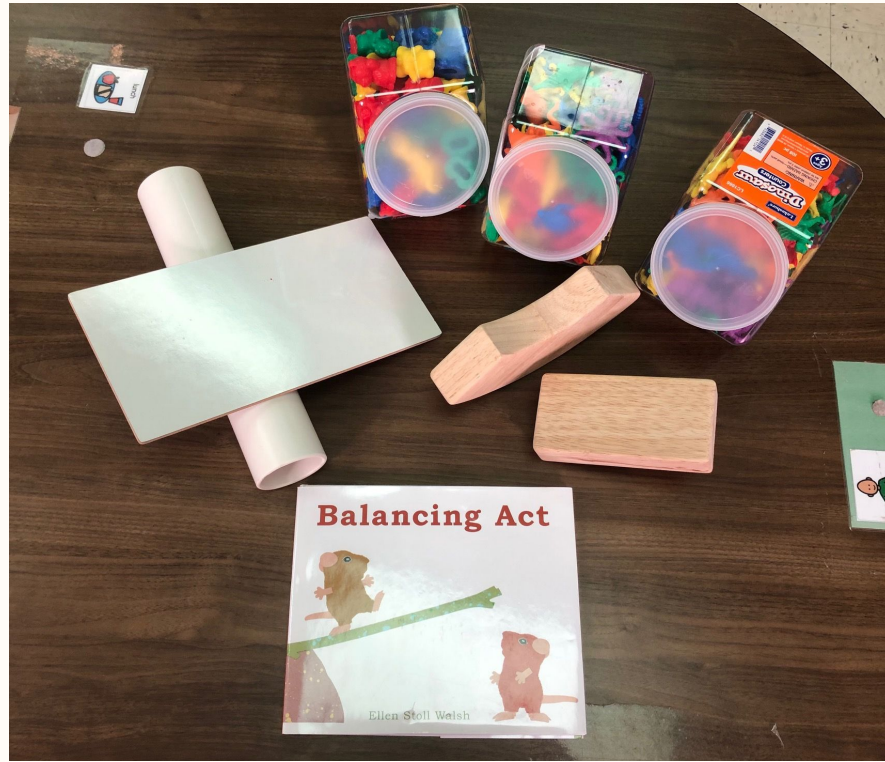








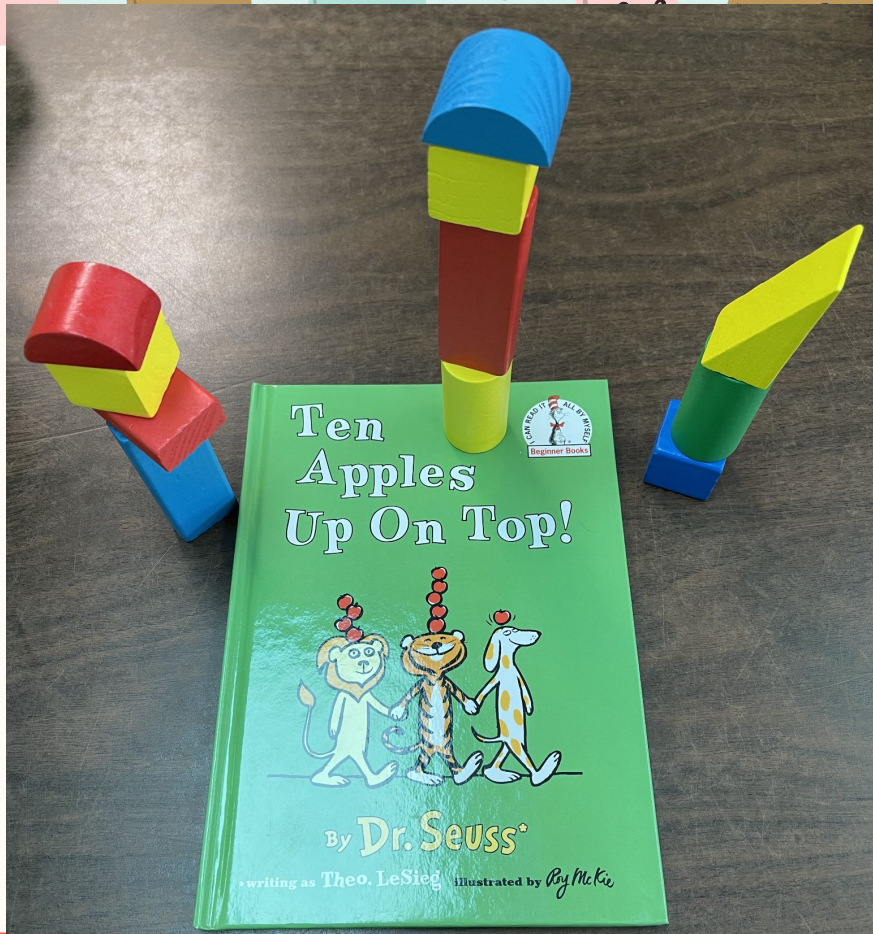






# Dear Zoo

Rod Campbell



# Ten Apples Up On Top!



By **Dr. Seuss**<sup>®</sup>

• writing as **Theo. LeSieg** • illustrated by *Roy McKie*

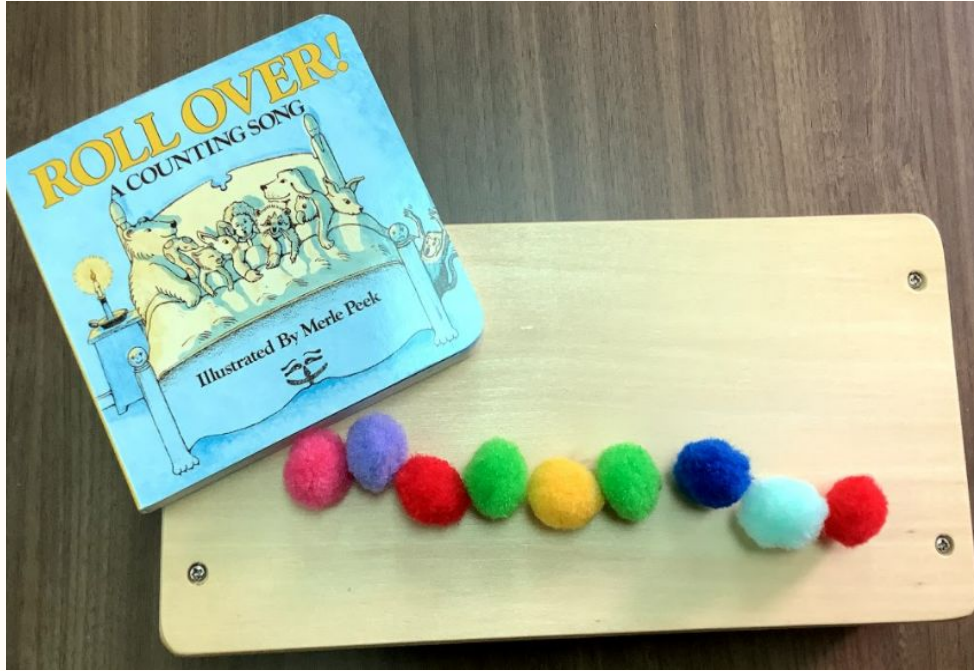


**It Looked  
Like Spilt Milk**

by Charles G. Shaw







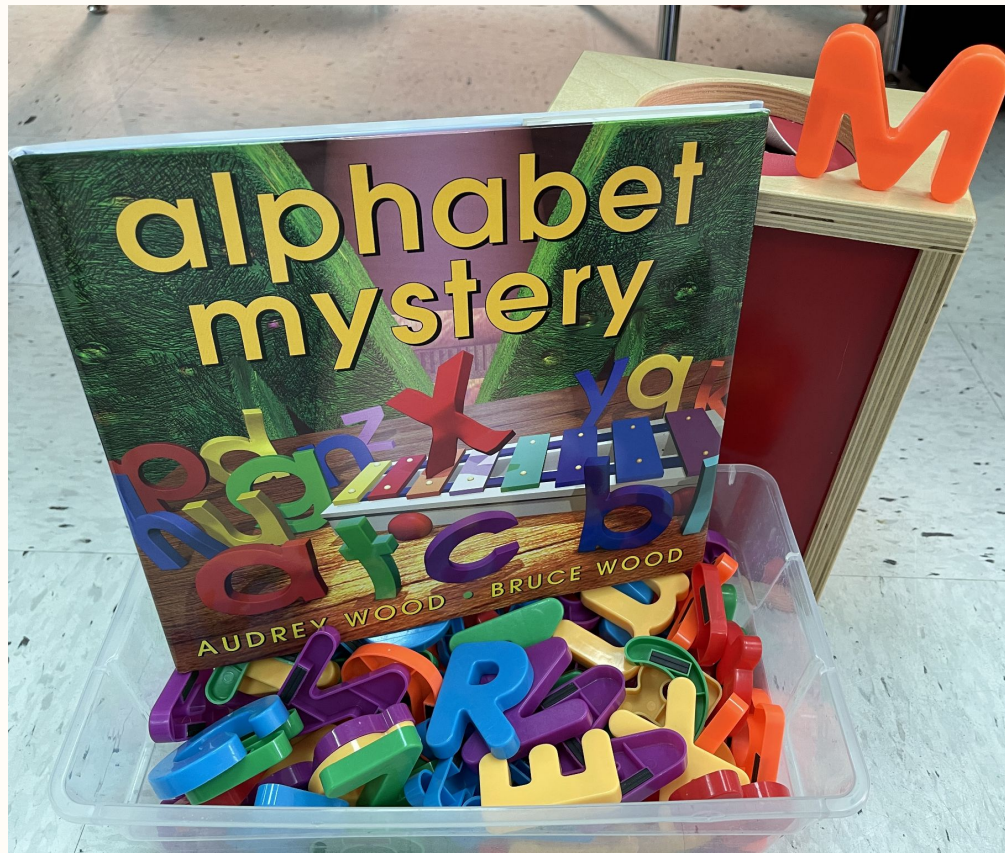


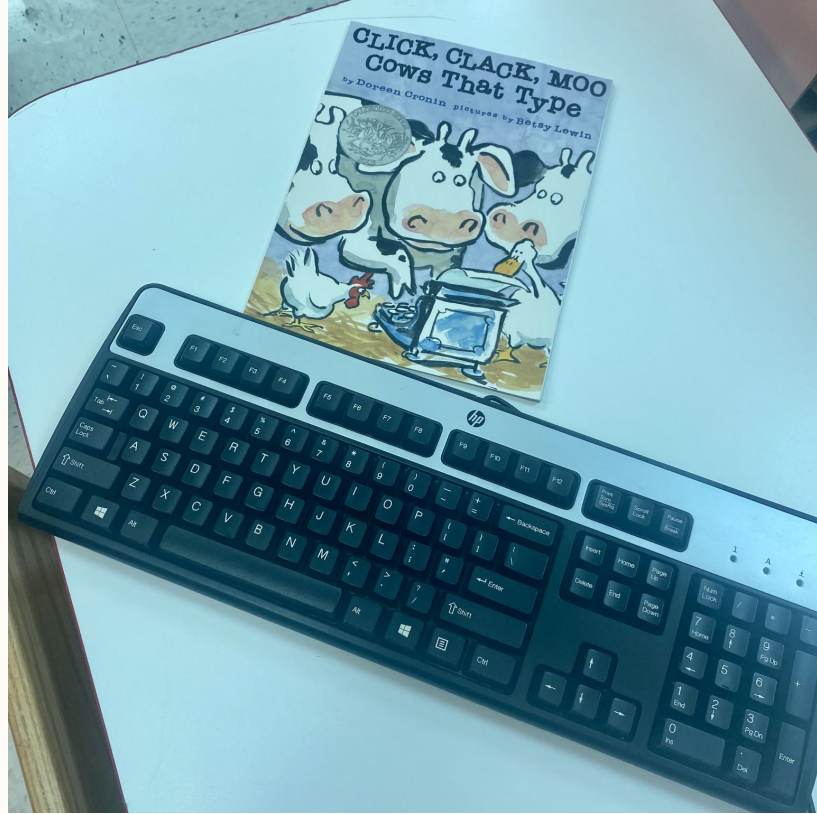














# Thank You!



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