

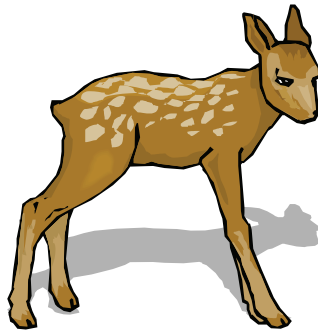
Let's Talk About **The Kissing Hand**



There are many different kinds of forest animals shown in this story. Some of them are familiar. Some may not be. Can you and your child name all the animals, insects and birds?



When Chester imagines going to school he thinks about doing things with new friends. Look to see who Chester considers his friends. Are they other raccoons? Are they animals that look and act differently from Chester? Do people need to look and act like us to become our friends?

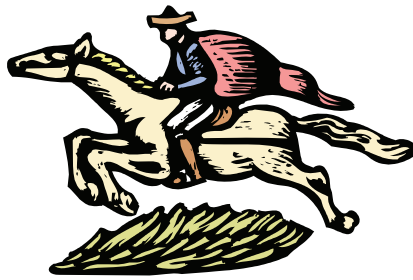


Let's Play With Rhymes

Ride-Away

This is a fun rhyme to say as you gallop together about the house. Or bounce a younger child on your knees to the rhythm of the words.

Ride-away, ride-away,
Johnny shall ride,
He shall have a pussy cat
Tied to his side;
He shall have a little dog
Tied to the other,
And Johnny shall ride
To see his grandmother.



Skinnamarink

(Listen to tune on Sharon Lois and Bram's *One Elephant CD*)

Skinnamarinky dinky dink
Skinnamarinky doo,
I love you! (repeat these 3 lines)

I love you in the morning
And in the afternoon.
I love you in the evening
Underneath the moon.

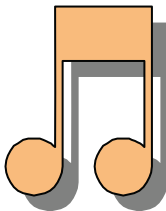
Repeat first 3 lines again.



Note to Parents & Caregivers

Books can help children prepare for change. Parents can use books to help children talk about what to expect in a new setting or situation. **The Kissing Hand** is especially good for a child who is entering school, day care or nursery school for the first time.

Books help
prepare
children for
change.



Let's Create

Puddin' Finger Paints

Whisk the following ingredients together in a bowl for two minutes:

- 1 large package of instant vanilla pudding
- 2 cups ice-cold water
- food colouring



Refrigerate for 5 minutes.

Divide pudding into a few small bowls or muffin tin sections.

Stir 5-7 drops of food colouring into each quantity of pudding.

Spoon pudding' finger paints onto a large sheet of paper.

Your fingers and hands are the paintbrushes.

Let's Be Together

The mother in this story is sensitive to her child's difficulty in going out into the world alone.

It is perfectly normal for children to go through periods where separation from you is difficult. Here are some suggestions for making separation a little easier:



- Give your child something that belongs to you that they can hold onto for the time that you are gone. If the child is very small it is a good idea to give them an item of clothing that smells like you.
- A photograph of you may help ease the difficulty.
- Make a plan to do something when you are back together again so that your child can look forward to playing a favourite game with you or baking those cookies.

Some separation anxiety is normal.



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