

3. After the child puts on what she considers appropriate clothing for the day, prompt her to forecast the weather to the class.

★ Lisa Chichester, Parkersburg, WV

## Dress-Up Song

### Materials

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Dress-up clothes (such as bow tie, feathery hat, fringed vest, flowered shirt, ruffled skirt, Western belt, colorful apron, bib) • suitcase or bag

### What to do

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1. Gather dress-up clothes (both ordinary and unique) and place them into a suitcase or bag. The suitcase or bag will invite the children's curiosity and interest. Remove the dress-up items from the suitcase and lay them out for all the children to see.
2. Ask one child at a time to pick an item, describe it, and put it on while everyone sings the following song to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell."

*I'm putting my (wooly scarf) on.*

*I'm putting my (wooly scarf) on.*

*I'm getting all dressed to look my best.*

*I'm putting my (wooly scarf) on.*

3. It is important to use the children's words in the song. (Don't change or rearrange their descriptive words.) This activity helps to develop observation skills, encourages language development, and validates their input.

★ Judy Fujawa, The Villages, FL

## Colors, Colors, Colors

### Materials

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None

### What to do

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1. During circle time, ask the children to close their eyes. Go around the circle and ask each child to name something that is a particular color. For example, ask a child to name something red in the classroom.
2. Play a guessing game by giving color clues. For example, a child might say, "I am thinking of something black- and white-striped. What is it?" Encourage the children to guess what it is.
3. The child continues to give clues until the children guess the answer. For example, "It is an animal," "It is large," and so on.

### More to do

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**Math:** Have different pieces of colored paper. Hold up a piece of blue paper. Ask the children who like the color blue to stand up. Count how many children stand up and write it on the paper. Hold up another color. Ask the children who like this color best to stand up. Count how many and write it on the paper. When you have shown all the papers, tally the results. Ask the children which color was most popular? The least? Any tie votes?

★ Wendy Pfeffer, Pennington, NJ

## Pet Store

### Materials

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Pictures of animals that make good pets (cats and dogs) and bad pets (tigers and elephants)

### What to do

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1. Ask the children to sit in a circle. Give each child an animal picture.

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