



Mountains

Box Contents

Books

Across the Blue Mountains

Emma Chichester Clark

Blueberry Shoe

Ann Dixon

Faces in the Mountains

Ron Hirschi

A Mountain Alphabet

Andrew Kiss

Ming Lo Moves the Mountain

Arnold Lobel

When the Whippoorwill Calls

Candice F. Ransom

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Cynthia Rylant

The Lost Lake

Allen Say

Climbing Kansas Mountains

George Shannon

How Mountains Are Made

Kathleen W. Zoehfeld

Adult Resource Book

The Creative Curriculum for Early Childhood

Diane Trister Dodge & Laura J. Colker

Cassette Tape

Six Little Ducks

Videorecording

Blueberries for Sal

Toy

Bear Puppet

Related Activities

Fingerplays

Jack and Jill

Jack and Jill went up the hill

To fetch a pail of water.

(walk in place, lift knees high)

Jack fell down and broke his crown

(clap hands; touch forehead)

And Jill came tumbling after!

(roll hands)

Traditional

Little Mountains

This little mountain finds the sun, *(hold up thumb)*

This little mountain drinks the rain,

(hold up index finger)

This little mountain shades its eyes

And looks out on the plain.

(hold up middle finger, then shade eyes with other hand)

This little mountain is ready for bed

With a white nightcap on its head.

(hold up ring finger, then cup other hand over top of it)

And this little mountain is up to its knees

In hundreds of pointed evergreen trees.

(hold up little finger, then wiggle all 10 fingers around knees)

Traditional

The Bear

Here is a cave, *(make fist)*

Inside is a bear. *(put thumb inside fist)*

Now he comes out

To get some fresh air. *(pop out thumb)*

He stays out all summer

In sunshine and heat. *(move thumb in a circle)*

He hunts in the forest

For berries to eat. *(pretend to eat)*

When snow starts to fall, *(wiggle fingers high to low)*

He hurries inside
His warm little cave
And there he will hide. (*put thumb back inside of fist*)
Snow covers the cave
Like a fluffy white rug.
Inside the bear sleeps
All cozy and snug. (*cover fist with other hand*)
Traditional

Songs

She'll Be Coming Round the Mountain

She'll be coming round the mountain when she comes.
She'll be coming round the mountain when she comes.
She'll be coming round the mountain,
She'll be coming round the mountain,
She'll be coming round the mountain when she comes.

other verses:

She'll be driving six white horses...
Oh, we'll all come out to meet her...
We'll all have chicken and dumplings...
She'll wear her red pajamas...

Activities

My Home in the Mountains

Read the book *Across the Blue Mountains*. Talk with the children about their "perfect home" and make a list of all the things a perfect home would have. Turn this into an art activity by having children draw or paint their "perfect home", or provide them with a paper outline of a house and have them decorate it with magazine cutouts, interesting craft materials, and so on.

Mountain Snacks

Blueberries are a favorite "mountain" food! Try adding frozen or fresh blueberries to a fruit salad.

Match That Shoe!

After enjoying the story *Blueberry Shoe*, play the shoe-matching game! Place a variety of old pairs of shoes in the center of the room, or in a box or tub. You can get old shoes from your own closet, or at a thrift store or garage sale. Let

children sort and match the shoes. See how many pairs they can make in one minute!

Mountain I Spy

A Mountain Alphabet reinforces learning the alphabet and learning new words at the same time! The details of the pictures are best shared with just a small group of children at a time, so they can identify the many elements on each page. Use the book as a springboard for playing "I Spy." The leader looks for a particular object in the room, and says "I spy with my little eye something that is -- red!" (or some other description). The players look about the room and guess what the leader has spied. Another fun identification game is to have a box of assorted items, and let the children find all the buttons, all the keys, all the coins, or whatever else you have placed in the box. Learning to identify, sort and group like objects are skills necessary to understanding basic math concepts when they get older.

Using this Theme Kit

Kids love music! On the cassette you will find the song, "The Bear Went Over the Mountain." After singing it together, make a paper or cardboard mountain in your play area, and let children play with the bear puppet while singing the song, having the bear climb up the mountain, look, play and come down again to the music.

After reading *Climbing Kansas Mountains*, let children think about other "mountains" they have climbed (for example, the Space Needle!). Seeing the world from a high place gives us a new perspective.

The adult resource book, *The Creative Curriculum for Early Childhood*, contains a section on the outdoors, which gives excellent ideas for introducing children to outdoor and nature activities.

Use this Mountains box in conjunction with other Books to Grow On theme kits, such as: Camping, Nature, and Our Earth.

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