Home Preschool 101

LESSON PLANS

The Mitten
TERMS OF USE

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Home Preschool 101 | Preschool Teacher 101

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Thanks again,
Shaunna and Mary Catherine

CLIPART & FONT CREDITS
MATERIALS LIST

The Mitten

- Popsicle sticks
- Cotton balls or pretend snow
- Toy manipulatives/animals
- Real mitten(s)
- Rocks for story stones
- White play dough

Be sure to read more about essential homeschool supplies here.
## ACTIVITIES CHECKLIST

### The Mitten

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Math</th>
<th>Science</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number mittens</td>
<td>Choose an animal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal patterns</td>
<td>Brainstorm questions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Order the animals</td>
<td>Read about the animal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How many can fit?</td>
<td>Read about the animal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shape matching</td>
<td>Record what’s been learned</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Literacy</th>
<th>Read Alouds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergent reader</td>
<td>The Mitten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Story rocks</td>
<td>The Hat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal beginning sounds</td>
<td>Bear Snores On</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retelling printable</td>
<td>The Mitten Tree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal names</td>
<td>Animals in Winter</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Arts and Crafts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fine Motor/Sensory</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Winter collage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stick puppets</td>
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<tr>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Other

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# SKILLS CHECKLIST
## The Mitten

<table>
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<td>Letter/Word sounds</td>
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<td>Letter knowledge</td>
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<td>Patterns and sorting</td>
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## FULL DAY LESSON PLAN

### The Mitten

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>MON</th>
<th>TUE</th>
<th>WED</th>
<th>THU</th>
<th>FRI</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Calendar</td>
<td>Songs &amp; Calendar Time</td>
<td>Songs &amp; Calendar Time</td>
<td>Songs &amp; Calendar Time</td>
<td>Songs &amp; Calendar Time</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 min</td>
<td>Math</td>
<td>Number mittens</td>
<td>Animal patterns</td>
<td>Order the animals</td>
<td>How many can fit?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 min</td>
<td>Snack</td>
<td>Snack</td>
<td>Snack</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 min</td>
<td>Free Play</td>
<td>Free Play</td>
<td>Free Play</td>
<td>Free Play</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 min</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Choose an animal</td>
<td>Brainstorm questions</td>
<td>Research the animal</td>
<td>Research the animal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 min</td>
<td>Read Aloud</td>
<td>The Mitten</td>
<td>The Hat</td>
<td>Bear Snores On</td>
<td>The Mitten Tree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 min</td>
<td>Emergent reader</td>
<td>Story rocks</td>
<td>Animal beginning sounds</td>
<td>Retelling printable</td>
<td>Animal names</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 min</td>
<td>Free Play</td>
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<td>60 min</td>
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<td>Read Aloud/Nap Time</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mitten guessing game</td>
<td>Winter collage</td>
<td>Sew a mitten</td>
<td>Stick puppets</td>
<td>Retelling sensory bin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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# HALF DAY LESSON PLAN

## The Mitten

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>MON</th>
<th>TUE</th>
<th>WED</th>
<th>THU</th>
<th>FRI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15 min.</td>
<td><strong>Calendar</strong></td>
<td>Songs &amp; Calendar Time</td>
<td>Songs &amp; Calendar Time</td>
<td>Songs &amp; Calendar Time</td>
<td>Songs &amp; Calendar Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 min.</td>
<td><strong>Math</strong></td>
<td>Number mittens</td>
<td>Animal patterns</td>
<td>Order the animals</td>
<td>How many can fit?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 min.</td>
<td><strong>Snack</strong></td>
<td>Snack</td>
<td>Snack</td>
<td>Snack</td>
<td>Snack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 min.</td>
<td><strong>Free Play</strong></td>
<td>Free Play</td>
<td>Free Play</td>
<td>Free Play</td>
<td>Free Play</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 min.</td>
<td><strong>Science</strong></td>
<td>Choose an animal</td>
<td>Brainstorm questions</td>
<td>Research the animal</td>
<td>Research the animal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 min.</td>
<td><strong>Read Aloud</strong></td>
<td>The Mitten</td>
<td>The Hat</td>
<td>Bear Snores On</td>
<td>The Mitten Tree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 min.</td>
<td><strong>Emergent reader</strong></td>
<td>Story rocks</td>
<td>Animal beginning sounds</td>
<td>Retelling printable</td>
<td>Animal names</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 min.</td>
<td><strong>Free Play</strong></td>
<td>Free Play</td>
<td>Free Play</td>
<td>Free Play</td>
<td>Free Play</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The main focus of these lesson plans is Jan Brett’s book *The Mitten*. Below you’ll find others that complement the focus book.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Book Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Hat</td>
<td>Jan Brett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Mitten</td>
<td>Alvin Tresselt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exploring the World of Foxes</td>
<td>Tracy Read</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over and Under the Snow</td>
<td>Kate Messner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animals in Winter</td>
<td>Henrietta Bancroft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ten on the Sled</td>
<td>Kim Norman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owls</td>
<td>Gail Gibbons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hedgehogs</td>
<td>Mary R. Dunn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Badgers</td>
<td>John Darbyshire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bear Snores On</td>
<td>Karma Wilson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owls</td>
<td>Mary R. Dunn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hedgie’s Surprise</td>
<td>Jan Brett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Geographic Kids: Bears</td>
<td>Elizabeth Carney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moles</td>
<td>Emily Sebastian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicolas, Where Have You Been?</td>
<td>Leo Lionni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mice</td>
<td>Sharon Vanderlip</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mole’s Hill</td>
<td>Lois Ehlert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Little Snowshoe</td>
<td>Ellen Obed Bryan</td>
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<td>The Missing Mitten Mystery</td>
<td>Steven Kellogg</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Mitten Tree</td>
<td>Candace Christiansen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snowshoe Hare</td>
<td>Dee Phillips</td>
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<tr>
<td>Missing Mittens</td>
<td>Stuart J. Murphy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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## LESSON ACTIVITIES - EXPLANATION

### The Mitten

#### Math
- **Number mittens** - Place the correct number of animals on each numbered mitten.
- **Animal patterns** - Create patterns using animals from the book.
- **Order the animals** - Place the animals in order from smallest to largest (or vice versa).
- **How many can fit?** - Use real mittens and a toy manipulative (like counting bears, cotton balls, etc.). See how many fit into the mitten. Extend by using different size mittens and compare. *(TF)*
- **Shape matching** - Match the mittens based on the shapes printed on each one.

#### Science
- **Choose an animal** - Begin a week-long animal research project by choosing an animal from the book. Create a KWL chart with 3 columns - K (what we know), W (what we want to learn), and L (what we learned). Fill in the K column. Optional: Record the animal being researched in the science journal.
- **Brainstorm questions** - Write ideas for what you want to learn about the animal (in the W column and/or the science journal).
- **Read about the animal** - Read non-fiction books about the animal. Record interesting information.
- **Read about the animal** - Same as above.
- **Record what’s been learned** - Write down the information learned throughout the week (in the L column and/or science journal).

#### Literacy
- **Emergent reader** - Read the printable emergent book based on The Mitten.
- **Story rocks** - Make easy story rocks based on the book’s characters. Add a child’s white mitten and a white piece of felt. Retell the story. *(TF)*
- **Animal beginning sounds** - Identify beginning sounds of the animals in the story. Extend by identifying additional words that begin with the same sound.
- **Retelling printable** - Add characters to the mitten while retelling the story.
- **Animal names** - Make a written list of the animals in the story. Count to see how many letters are in each animal name.

#### Other
- **Mitten guessing game** - Have a tray of hidden objects. Have kids wear mittens, close their eyes and try to touch the object and identify what it is. *(TF)*
- **Winter collage** - Use the printable characters, white paint, snowflake confetti, etc. to create a winter scene. *(TF)*
- **Sew a mitten** - Hole punch two mitten templates. Have kids lace white yarn around the mitten.
- **Stick puppets** - Make character stick puppets and design a backdrop for a puppet theater.
- **Retelling sensory bin** - Place cotton balls or fake snow into a bin. Add animal figures or cut outs, along with mittens, for retelling play. *(TF)*

*(TF)* - Toddler-friendly ideas that would work when home with children of different ages.

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INDEPENDENT ACTIVITIES

The Mitten

These activities would work well as centers or work boxes during free play time. They’re meant to allow children the chance to play, explore, and practice preschool skills on their own. Children may still need some assistance at times, of course. They’re broken down by subject area for reference. (TF) = Toddler-Friendly

### Math

- **Mitten matching** - Use the printable number and number word mittens. Children match the items, and then add the appropriate number of animals to each number. Use dotted number mittens in place of number word mittens, as needed.

- **Shape hunt** - Use the shape mittens. Children find items around the house that are the correct shape and place them near the shape mittens.

### Literacy

- **Animal words** - Use magnetic letters, letter tiles, or other alphabet manipulatives, along with printable word cards. Children make the character’s names on the mitten word cards.

- **Mitten letter cards** - Children can use the letter cards as puzzles, matching uppercase and lowercase letters. They can also be used as guides alongside a sensory writing tray filled with salt or fake snow.

### Science

- **Non-fiction books** - Place a variety of books about the animals from The Mitten in a basket. Children can look through real photos and information.

- **Animals in the snow** - Draw pictures of what different animals are doing in the snow (in science journals). Which animals might blend in with the snow?

### Sensory

- **Textured mittens** - Place various textures on old mittens (rough, smooth, bumpy, etc.). Children can run the textures over their skin and use words to describe what they feel. (TF)

- **Mitten play dough** - Add animals to white play dough. Children can create footprints in the “snow” and retell the book. Alternatively, add laminated printable characters.

### Block Play

- **Stack the animals** - Tape the story’s animals to blocks. See how many can be stacked up before falling over. (TF)

### Arts and Crafts

- **Torn paper animals** - Tear pieces of construction paper. Use the pieces to create art based on the animals in the book.

- **Design your own mittens** - Have children make their own mittens using paper, glue, stickers, glitter, etc. Place out a variety of art materials. (TF)
The Mitten Patterns
Cut along the dotted lines. Laminate for durability. Use for sorting and patterning.
The Mitten Patterns
Cut along the dotted lines. Laminate for durability. Use for sorting and patterning.

badger  badger  badger  badger  badger

bear    bear    bear    bear    bear

fox     fox     fox     fox     fox
The Mitten Patterns
Cut along the dotted lines. Laminate for durability. Use for sorting and patterning.

mole mole mole mole mole mole
rabbit rabbit rabbit rabbit rabbit rabbit
mitten mitten mitten mitten mitten mitten
badger
bear
fox
hedgehog
mole
mouse
The Mitten Letter Matching Puzzles

Print letter cards. Cut in half diagonally, from the top-right corner to the bottom-left corner (so uppercase and lowercase are separate). Laminate for durability. Children match the uppercase to lowercase letters, like a puzzle.
K

L

M

N

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Number Mittens Matching Sets
Number Mittens Matching Sets

3 4
Number Mittens
Matching Sets

5

6
Number Mittens Matching Sets

7
8
Number Mittens Matching Sets

9 10
Mitten Matching Math

1 2
3 4 5
Mitten Matching Math

6
7
8
9
10
Mitten Matching Math

one
two
three
four
five
Mitten Matching Math

six

seven

eight

nine

ten
Mitten Matching Math
Cut out.
Laminate.
Match.
Mitten Matching Math
The Mitten – Order the Animals - Cut along the dotted lines. Laminate for durability. Children put the animals in order from smallest to largest (or vice versa), or make patterns.
The Mitten – Order the Animals - Cut along the dotted lines. Laminate for durability. Children put the animals in order from smallest to largest (or vice versa), or make patterns.

mouse
mouse
mouse
mouse
mouse
mouse
mouse
mouse
The Mitten – Order the Animals - Cut along the dotted lines. Laminate for durability. Children put the animals in order from smallest to largest (or vice versa), or make patterns.

hedgehog

hedgehog

hedgehog

hedgehog

hedgehog

hedgehog

hedgehog

hedgehog
The Mitten – Order the Animals - Cut along the dotted lines. Laminate for durability. Children put the animals in order from smallest to largest (or vice versa), or make patterns.
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The Mitten – Order the Animals - Cut along the dotted lines. Laminate for durability. Children put the animals in order from smallest to largest (or vice versa), or make patterns.

badger
badger
badger
badger
badger
badger
The Mitten – Order the Animals - Cut along the dotted lines. Laminate for durability. Children put the animals in order from smallest to largest (or vice versa), or make patterns.
Retelling Jan Brett's The Mitten
Mitten Shape Matching
Cut out the mittens. Laminate for durability. Use for matching and games.
Mitten Shape Matching
Cut out the mittens. Laminate for durability. Use for matching and games.
Mitten Shape Matching
Cut out the mittens. Laminate for durability. Use for matching and games.
Mitten Shape Matching
Cut out the mittens. Laminate for durability. Use for matching and games.
Animals of The Mitten Science Journal

by ________
The animal I chose:

Draw a picture of the animal.
What I already know about my animal:
What I want to learn about my animal:
Interesting facts about my animal:
The mole is in
the mitten.
The rabbit is in the mitten.  The hedgehog is in the mitten.
The owl is in the mitten.

The badger is in the mitten.
The fox is in the mitten.

The bear is in the mitten.
The mouse is in the mitten.