

# If You Give a Moose a Muffin

By Laura Joffe Numeroff

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This book shows all of the different things that can happen from doing just one thing, like giving a moose a muffin.

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## BEFORE READING:

- Show the children the front of the book. Ask them to guess what the book is about.
- Ask them what they see on the front cover.
- Ask them to count (or count with you) or describe the muffins on the cover of the book.

## WHILE READING:

- Stop at any time if there is something you or the children would like to talk about.
- Ask them questions so that they can connect what is happening in the book to things they already know about. Try some of these ideas:
  - ⇒What do you eat on your muffins?
  - ⇒What do you wear when it's chilly outside?
  - ⇒What sorts of pictures do you like to paint?

## AFTER READING:

Spend some time talking about the story. Ask the children things like:

- ⇒What did the moose want at the beginning of the story?
- ⇒What did the moose use to make puppets?
- ⇒What did the moose want to be for Halloween?

Read this book several times to the children. Hearing the same story again and again helps them learn new words and understand the ideas they hear better. Each day, pick a different activity to do with the children after reading "If You Give a Moose a Muffin."

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## **MATH AND SCIENCE**

Use an object such as balls or toys to represent muffins. Have the children count the “muffins.” Then pretend to eat a few, and ask the children how many are left. Have the children try to divide the muffins evenly among different numbers of children.

## **READING READINESS**

As you read the book, have the children guess what they think will come next. For example, you could say “If you give a moose....then he will want....” and stop. Let the children tell you what they think the moose will do next. Have them use the pictures in the story as clues if they need help.

## **MUSIC AND MOVEMENT**

In the story, moose makes several big messes. When it is time to clean up, discuss with the children how it is important to clean up your mess when you are visiting someone’s house. Have the children clean up the classroom while singing “Clean up, clean up, everybody do your share. Clean up, clean up, everybody everywhere.” Play “beat the clock” by trying to clean up a specific area within a certain amount of time.

## **MOTOR SKILLS**

Have the children draw scenes from the book on separate sheets of paper. Then, punch holes

along the left side of the pages. Have the children weave string or yarn in and out through the holes to “sew” a book like the moose in the story.

## **THINKING SKILLS**

Help the children create a list of things they would do with a moose if one came to visit their house. Where would they take the moose? What would they feed the moose? Have them draw a picture of the idea they like the best.

## **ART**

Use socks or brown bags to make puppets. Allow the children to decorate and add features to their puppet. Then, have them put on a puppet show, reenacting scenes from the story.

## **PRETEND PLAY**

Pretend the classroom is a grocery store. Place canned food, boxes, old cartons and bottles around the room and have the children “go shopping.” Pretend to scan their items and ring up their orders. They can use fake money or other items that could represent coins to pay for their purchase.

