

Is That Wise, Pig?

- Written and illustrated by Jan Thomas
- Beach Lane Books, 2016

Cow and Pig want to help chef Mouse make soup. In quantities from one to 10, Mouse and Cow contribute a variety of vegetables, but Pig offers umbrellas and galoshes! The chef questions Pig's judgment. "Is that wise, Pig?" This silly book introduces children to the idea of wise choices and invites them to practice counting objects from one to 10. The speech bubbles used in the book provide a wonderful example of how dialogue can be expressed differently in print.

Vocabulary

- wise: using what you know to make good choices

How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth

- Written by Michelle Robinson
- Illustrated by Kate Hindley
- Henry Holt and Co., 2013

In this humorous picture book, a girl clad in a protective yellow raincoat demonstrates how to wash a woolly mammoth. From step one (fill the tub) to step 10 (throw in the towel and snuggle), children will laugh at the ridiculousness of a prehistoric creature in a modern day bathroom, the small girl's struggles to contain and clean such a large animal, and the mammoth's escape. An excellent entry point for discussing how bubbles form, children also practice using tally marks and exploring the concept of taking care of others.

Vocabulary

- scrub: to clean by rubbing, often with a brush

Green

- Written and illustrated by Laura Vaccaro Seeger
- Roaring Brook Press, 2012

Have you ever thought about all the different shades of green? This book playfully introduces children to this idea, and the painted pages show how colors are mixed to create new ones. Greens from peas, grass, jungles, and the ocean are portrayed with descriptive language in this exploration of shades of color.

Vocabulary

- wacky: silly, strange, or make-believe

The Mixed-Up Truck

- Written and illustrated by Stephen Savage
- Roaring Brook Press, 2016

Cement mixer is supposed to mix up some powdery white cement, but accidentally combines flour and water, creating a towering cake. Oops! After several more tries, cement mixer gets it right and helps to build a tall building. A final mixture results in a great big bubble bath for all of the dusty trucks. This book provides children with both an introduction to the science of mixing and an invitation to discuss the importance of trying again when you make a mistake.

Vocabulary

- presto: a word to announce that something has been done, as if by magic

Monsters Love Colors

- Written and illustrated by Mike Austin
- HarperCollins, 2013

This boisterous book features enthusiastic monsters wielding bright crayons, as they announce their favorite primary colors with dances, roars, and lots of squiggly lines. The monsters mix their colors to create green, orange, and purple, as action words dance across the page. Children create their own colorful scribbles and experiment with colors, as well as practice making predictions.

Vocabulary

- scribble: to draw freely any which way

When Grandma Gives You a Lemon Tree

- Written by Jamie L. B. Deenihan
- Illustrated by Lorraine Rocha
- Sterling Children's Books, 2019

On her birthday, a young girl receives a lemon tree instead of the gadgets she wanted. Gradually her disappointment turns to delight, as she nurtures the plant and harvests its lemons. This introduction to a new mixture, lemonade, allows children to practice making predictions and identifying how a character's emotions may change throughout a book.

Vocabulary

- pinch: to take a small amount of something
- dazzling: bright and shiny

Bubbles

- Written and illustrated by Kit Chase
- G.P. Putnam's Sons Books for Young Readers, 2018

Children begin their investigation of bubble mixtures with this book about friendship and courage. Kangaroo and Koala both love to blow bubbles, but Koala hides in a tree, too shy to play. Their shared love of bubbles brings them together, and their bravery saves the day! Children practice making predictions, learn a new calming strategy, and review how to take care of each other as they watch Kangaroo and Koala's friendship develop.

Vocabulary

- mysterious: strange, when you don't know about or understand something

White Rabbit's Colors

- Written and illustrated by Alan Baker
- Kingfisher, 1999

A curious white rabbit finds three tubs of paint—yellow, red, and blue. The rabbit takes a dip in different colors, observing how the combinations create new ones. Descriptive language helps children make artistic and emotional connections to the colors. This demonstration of basic color mixing encourages children to make predictions about what color the white rabbit will become next.

Vocabulary

- sizzling: very hot like fire

The Lemonade Hurricane

- Written by Licia Morelli
- Illustrated by Jennifer E. Morris
- Tilbury House Publishers, 2015

Emma's little brother is a lemonade-drinking, havoc-wreaking human whirlwind, and she wants to help him find his inner stillness. As Emma shows Henry how to sit, bow, and breathe, children reflect on what they have learned so far about mindfulness and calming yourself down.

Vocabulary

- hurricane: a big storm with wind and rain