

# Smarty Pants Magazine for Kids

## Curriculum Corner

**Table of Contents: Hay, Hay, Hay!**

**Theme: Autumn**

**Grades: K-3**

### **Language Arts Activities**

Read: Hay, Hay, Hay! (see end of this pdf)

Choose from a variety of materials, adaptable for Ages K-3

### **Comprehension Questions**

Worksheet: Fill in the Blanks

### **Learning Experiences:**

Social Studies Reading for Information

Taking Test Skills in Written Form

Good for the 'Intrapersonal Learner' that are independent and like to work alone

### **Comprehension Questions:**

True-False Game. Children show recall by holding up designated card answers.

### **Learning Experiences:**

Cognitive Recall

Interactive Activity

Good for the 'Interpersonal Learner' that likes to interact in a group.

Good for your 'Linguistic Learner' that likes the auditory word.

### **Dramatic Interpretation**

Learning Experiences:

- Reading, Performing, Following Directions, Social Interaction, Sentence Structure-Verbs
- *Choral Reading for Voices: The Scarecrow*

- Good for your ‘Musical Learner’ that responds to auditory sounds and rhythm.
- *Play: “The Ant and the Grasshopper”*
- Good for your ‘Bodily-Kinesthetic Learner’ that likes to move around.

## **Rhyming**

### **Learning Experiences:**

- Copy Words
- Reading Comprehension
- Memorizing
- *Little Boy Blue Poem*
- Good for your 'Musical Learners'
- Good for your 'Visual-Spatial Learner' who likes to draw and create

## **Art:**

Enhancing The Scarecrow Coloring Sheet with Instructions

Enhancing The Little Boy Blue Coloring Sheet with Instructions

## Comprehension Questions (Written Form)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Choose the word or words that fit in the blanks in the sentences below. Remember to cross the word off the list when you use it in a sentence.

grass      cows      horses      Timothy      straw      haystacks  
dry      tools      reaper      summer

1. Two animals that eat hay are **c** \_\_\_\_\_ and **h** \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Hay is dried **g** \_\_\_\_\_.
3. **T** \_\_\_\_\_ is the name of a kind of grass.
4. **S** \_\_\_\_\_ is a good bed for a cow.
5. Stooks, shocks, and ricks are kinds of **h** \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Hay must stay **d** \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Cyrus McCormick invented the **r** \_\_\_\_\_.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

8. Hay grows best in s \_\_\_\_\_.

9. Scythes and sickles are t \_\_\_\_\_.

### 10. Read the story-sentences below.

Ramon and Carlos were brothers. They lived on a farm. One summer day, they saw the cows **grazing** in the **pasture**.

”The cows like that green grass that is growing in the field,” said Ramon.

“Yes,” said Carlos. ”They like it better than the hay they have to eat in the winter.”

Ramon laughed and said, “But, I’m glad we’re eating pizza tonight!”

### Draw a circle around the correct answer.

1. True            False            Grazing means to eat grass that is growing.

2. True            False            A pasture is a field.

# Comprehension Questions: True-False Flashcards Game

## Preparation and Materials, and Game Play

Cut 2”x 2” squares of different colored paper in the number of sets of children in your room.

### Game Play Option #1:

Write *True* on one color (yellow). Write *False* on the other color (red).

After reading the Hay, Hay, Hay! post, give each child a set of flashcards.

Ask the questions.

*Other options to suit your learning agenda for other cognitive skills.*

- *Use white for recognizing words True and False. Use Letters T and F.*
- *Use words Yes and No, or Y and N.*
- *Use colors only. Color Green means True, Color Red means False.*
- *Use a square means Yes and a heart means No.*
- *Give each child 1/4th of a piece of colored paper. Tell them to tear it into three pieces - One-piece held up is for True. Two pieces held up if for False.*

Challenging the brain cells by using different responses for the same purpose. Kids are really good at this and figure it out quickly. It’s a Game! Addresses basic learning styles in one activity.

SAVE the flashcards. You can use this idea as an interactive method for your other reading comprehension activities.

EXAMPLE: “Hay is grass”. Children respond by holding up the correct flashcard.

(Don’t worry about correcting them. You will say, “True. Hay is grass.”

The children will correct themselves and hold up the right card. Lots of thinking skills here and lots of fun for you and the kids.

### Here are the Questions

1. Dinosaurs ate hay. True
2. Hay is grass. True
3. Cows like to eat hay. True

4. Straw is not a good bed for a horse. False. Straw is a good, soft, warm, dry bed for a horse.
5. It is OK for hay to get wet. False. Hay will rot if it stays wet.
6. A bale of hay is shaped like a heart. False. A bale of hay is shaped like a square.
7. Hay-eating animals have special stomachs. True.
8. A barn is a home for animals. True
9. Stooks, stocks, and ricks are kinds of haystacks. True
10. Cyrus McCormick invented the reaper. True
11. Legumes are peas and beans. True
12. Livestock are animals like the giraffe and the tiger. False. Animals like cattle, horses, and sheep.
13. Wheat is a grain. True
14. An alligator is kept in a stable. False. Livestock are kept in stables.
15. Cutting, drying, bundling, and storing are processes of harvesting hay. True
16. The McCormick Reaper was a spaceship. False. The McCormick Reaper was a harvesting machine.
17. Farmers and ranchers work in the field of Agriculture. True
18. The Industrial Revolution was when machines were invented. True.
19. I would like to be a Farmer and drive a tractor. (any answer ok)
20. I would like to be a Rancher and ride a horse. (any answer ok)

(You could chart the answers to see how many farmers and ranchers)

## **The Scarecrow Choral Reading for Voices Activity**

**To the Teacher:** Options. You can:

1. Print your own copy. Read the verses and children say the 'Hay Hay Hay!' at the ending in unison.
2. Print copies for the children to read as directed.
3. Allow individual voices to read the verses and group responses on the 4th verse.

# The Scarecrow Song

## Verse 1 Girls

What do you do with a scarecrow?

What do you do?

What do you do with a scarecrow?

ALL: You do Hay, Hay, Hay!

## Verse 2 Boys

What do you **say** to a scarecrow?

What do you say?

What do you say to a scarecrow?

ALL: You say, Hay, Hay, Hay!

## Verse 3 Girls

How do you **talk** to a scarecrow?

How do you talk?

How do you talk to a scarecrow?

ALL: You talk Hay, Hay, Hay!

## Verse 4 Boys

What do you **eat** with a scarecrow?

What do you eat?

What do you eat with a scarecrow?

You eat Hay, Hay, Hay!

### **Verse 5 Girls**

How do you **play** with a scarecrow?

How do you play?

How do you play with a scarecrow?

You play, Hay, Hay, Hay!

### **Verse 6 Boys**

How do you **sing** to a scarecrow?

How do you sing?

How do you sing to a scarecrow?

ALL: You sing Hay, Hay, Hay!

### **Verse 7 Girls**

What do you **teach** to a scarecrow?

What do you teach?

What do you teach to a scarecrow?

ALL: You teach Hay, Hay, Hay!

“Can you think of other things you can do with a scarecrow?”

Let children offer suggestions of other verses. (verbs of action)

# The Ant and the Grasshopper

## Preparation and Materials

**Props:** Pieces of colored paper for food.

Children can be 'Prop Managers' that tear up the paper.

Have it ready in a container.

## Costumes:

- Make headbands for Actors
- Children can be 'Costume Makers' to help do this.
- Red headbands for ants. Staple red pipe cleaner curled up on headband. (*Put tape over staple to protect scratching child's head*).
- Green headband grasshopper. Staple green pipe cleaner. Or, you can just cut red and green paper strips that stick up and glue on the headband.)

Select Stage Area for Actors and Area for Audience

Remind Actors of stage positions. Stage/Right, Stage/Left is Right and Left of the Actor on the stage.

## Actors: The Narrator, Ant 1, Ant 2, and Ant 3, the Grasshopper, the Wind

Position Actors in their Stage positions to begin Play.

The Narrator (stands Off Stage throughout the production)

The Ants begin Center Stage

The Ants are crawling around and piling up the 'food'

The Wind is off stage.

The Play Begins. Children can have scripts in hand or memorize.

## The Play

**Narrator (to Audience):** “Thank you for coming to our play. You are an important part of our performance. Without you, we would have no one to watch us. Let us begin.”

**Stage Directions:** *Ants 1, 2, and 3 are center stage, crawling around and acting out piling up the paper food.*

**Narrator (off stage):** One day in autumn, the ants were busy storing food. They were piling it up for the cold winter that was coming.

**Ant 1:** B.r.r.r. it’s getting cold.

**Ant 2:** Winter is almost here.

**Ant 3:** I’m glad we got food to eat.

*(Grasshopper hops on to stage, happy!)* Hi, little ant friends.

**Ant 1:** Look. It’s the Grasshopper.

**Grasshopper:** Can I have some of that food?

**Ant 2:** We worked a long time to get this food.

**Ant 3:** What have you been doing all summer?

**Grasshopper:** *(dances around in a circle)* Oh, I have been singing and dancing!

**Ant 1:** Well, you should have been getting food while the weather was nice.

**Grasshopper:** You have plenty of food.

**Ant 2:** It will be a long winter.

**Grasshopper:** You can give me some.

**Ant 3:** No. We will not have enough for our families.

*The Wind child walks across the stage in the back, sucking and blowing out big breaths of air. The Wind child can also wave his arms around like a blowing wind.*

**Grasshopper:** Winter is here. What will I do?

**Ant 3:** If you hurry, maybe you can still find some food.

**Grasshopper:** Oh, no. I am much too busy dancing.

*Ants gather their food and crawl off stage.*

**Grasshopper:** (sadly looks at audience) - Next year, I am going to remember to store up food for the winter.

*Grasshopper walks sadly and slowly off stage. end*

*Audience claps and Actors return to Stage Center for a bow. Repeat if other children want to act.*

*Perform for other classes or for parents.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Little Boy Blue

Memorizing, Copying, and Comprehension Questions

**Preparation and Materials:** Worksheet copies. Crayons. Pencils. Grass/straw. Glue.

*Copy the missing word in the sentence.*

Little Boy **Blue**.

Little Boy

\_\_\_\_\_.

Come blow your **horn**.

Come blow your

\_\_\_\_\_.

The sheep's in the **meadow**.

The sheep's in the

\_\_\_\_\_.

The cow's in the **corn**.

The cow's in the

\_\_\_\_\_.

But where is the little **boy**

But where is the little

\_\_\_\_\_

that looks after the **sheep**?

that looks after the

\_\_\_\_\_.

He's under the **haystack**,

He's under the

\_\_\_\_\_.

fast **asleep**.

fast

\_\_\_\_\_.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Comprehension Questions

1. What musical instrument does Little Boy Blue blow? \_\_\_\_\_

2. What word rhymes with horn? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Draw a circle around these other musical instruments that you can blow to make the music.

trumpet

piano

harmonica

tuba

flute

drum

violin

oboe

4. Where are the sheep? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Where is the cow? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Where is the little boy? \_\_\_\_\_

7. What is he doing \_\_\_\_\_

8. What job is he supposed to be doing? \_\_\_\_\_

9. What rhymes with sheep? \_\_\_\_\_

10. Count the number of the Letter Bb that is used in this poem. How many?

\_\_\_\_\_

# Art: Enhancing the Little Boy Blue Coloring Sheet

1. Color the Picture of Little Boy Blue.
2. What color do you think his clothes might be?
3. Glue grass or straw for the Haystack.
4. Write what you think he is dreaming about.

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# Art: Enhancing the Scarecrow Color Sheet

## Preparation and Materials

- Straw, grass, or cut pieces of yarn for hair, bottom sleeves, bottom pants
- Yarn for the tie belt
- Cut scraps of cloth materials for patches; or let kids cut squares of colored paper
- Googly eyes
- Pom-pom nose
- Toothpicks for sharp rake
- Glue
- Construction Paper for Frame

## Instructions

A prepared 'Sample', if possible (in your 'spare time'!)

1. Color Picture
2. Color around the picture (top page: draw a Sun, color Blue area; bottom page, color green grass).
3. Add crafting items
4. Glue on a color sheet
5. Display

# Hay, Hay, Hay!

Who Eats Hay?

Horses, cattle, donkeys, sheep, goats, rabbits, and guinea pigs eat hay.

## What is Hay?

Hay is grass that is cut, dried and stored for use as animal food. Hay can include grasses with names like *Timothy* and *Bermuda*. Hay can include *legumes* like peas, beans, and peanuts. The leaf and seed materials in hay are healthy food for *livestock* animals on farms and ranches.

## What is Straw?

Straw is the green stems of *grain* plants like oats and wheat. Straw is used for bedding to keep animals warm and dry.

Straw does not include the leaves and stems of the plant. It is not good food for animals.

## Why Eat Hay?

*Grazing* in sweet green grass growing in *pastures* is best for livestock. But farmers and ranchers may not have enough pasture land for all their animals. Then, hay becomes a good and available food source. Also, hay is handy during the cold winter months when animals are kept in *stables* or barns.

## Did You Know?

- a '*haystack*' is a pile of hay
- haystacks are called '*stooks*', '*shocks*', and '*ricks*'
- a '*bale*' is a square block or rolled up hay
- hay-eating animals have special stomachs to digest the *coarse* grass

## Making Hay

'*Making hay*' is a process of *harvesting* the grass in warm weather. Harvesting includes:

1. Cutting the grass.
2. Drying the grass.
3. Bundling the grass in bales.

4. Storing the bales in covered buildings.

After this processing, the hay must stay dry, or it will rot.

## **Scythes and Sickles**

Early haymakers used hand tools to cut grass and grains. They moved across the fields swinging a *scythe* (long curved sharp blade on a long handle). They also used a *sickle* (semi-curved sharp blade on a short handle). Some works of art show paintings of *reapers* harvesting hay with these dangerous-looking tools.

## **Making Hay Yesterday and Today - The McCormick Reaper**

In 1831, *Cyrus McCormick*, from the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia, invented a ‘reaper’. This *invention* could cut, separate, and bind the grasses. The Reaper was a new *mechanical* way of *harvesting crops*. It saved the field worker from the back-breaking labor of cutting grass by hand. It harvested greater numbers of bales in less time.

By 1845, the McCormick Reaper had plowed the way for the *Industrial Revolution* of machines replacing people in *agriculture* and other *industries*.

## **“Making Hay While the Sun Shines”**

This is the truth about making hay. Hay grows best during the Summer when the sun shines brightly. This truth about hay has entered our language as a figure of speech called an *idiom*. That means it was given a different meaning from the original meaning.

As an idiom in the English language, “*making hay while the sun shines*” means: “making the best use of an opportunity,” or “taking advantage of a good situation while there is still time.”

*Hey! Kids. What do you think of that?*