

Kindergarten Literature

September

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- 03** A SICK DAY FOR AMOS MCGEE
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 AND SEE THE WORLD

*Children are made readers
on the laps of their parents.*

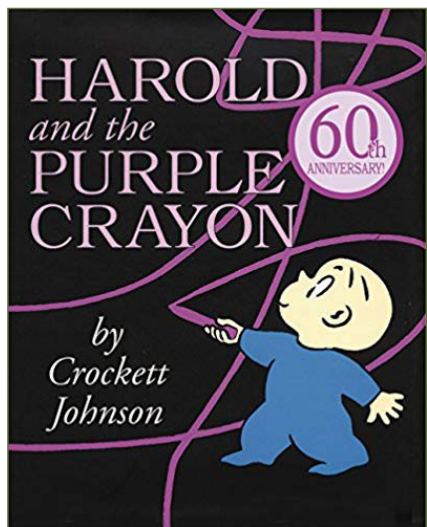


EMILIE BUCHWALD



Harold and the Purple Crayon

By Crockett Johnson



“One evening, after thinking it over for some time, Harold decided to go for a walk in the moonlight.”



David Johnson Leisk, known by his pen name, Crockett Johnson, is both the author and illustrator of *Harold and the Purple Crayon*. Johnson is best known for his comic strip *Barnaby* and the *Harold* series, which includes seven different books. Johnson also teamed up with his wife, Ruth Krauss, to write four picture books, including *The Carrot Seed*, *How to Make an Earthquake*, *Is this You?*, and *The Happy Egg*.



A young boy, Harold, creates his own journey by using his big purple crayon and his vivid imagination. He sets out on a walk, drawing a moon and his path as he goes. His adventures lead him to a variety of places before Harold eventually draws his home and ends up back in his own bedroom.



Who is the main character in the story, and what do we know about him?

Did this story take place in one spot or many? Where did Harold adventure to?

If you were Harold where would you like to go?

Did Harold run into any conflicts on his journey? Explain.

Would you recommend this story to a friend? Why or why not?



"September" by Helen Hunt Jackson (first stanza only)

This week you will introduce the poem to your child by reading it aloud to them several times in a row. Next, invite your child to begin memorizing by having them repeat each line after you, one line at a time. Then, guide them to put each line together with the one after it, building up towards memorizing the entire stanza. Do a little memorization work each day.



Purple Collage. The materials you need for this activity are purple construction paper, a variety of purple craft items (glitter, pom poms, ribbon, yarn, beads, stickers, tissue paper, etc.), scissors, and white school glue. Ask your child to create a piece of art by gluing the craft items onto the purple paper. They can cut or tear items as needed. Encourage your child to think about what they would like to create before they begin. They may choose to make a design, create an object (a bird, flower, etc.), or perhaps they want to glue their pieces randomly. Any way they want to create is perfect. Collage is a very open-ended art form which provides great flexibility and puts more of an emphasis on the process rather than the product.





Lots of Buildings. Gather a set of unit blocks, a marker, scissors, and masking tape. Have your child turn to the page in the book that reads, "He made lots of buildings full of windows." Have your child share what they see. Encourage them to see shapes, the different window configurations, and the different building heights. Using Harold's buildings as inspiration, have your child build several buildings out of their unit blocks. Set the marker, scissors and tape near their building area in case your child would like to add windows to their buildings by drawing on the tape then sticking it to the blocks.



Lavender Playdough. Gather together the playdough ingredients, from the [recipe at the end of this unit](#), purple food coloring, and lavender essential oil. Invite your child to help you make a batch of lavender-scented playdough. Follow the recipe found at the end of this document to make the playdough, and add in the food coloring and essential oil. After it is made, teach your child how to roll out the playdough into long, thin pieces that resemble snakes. Ask them to use these snake-like pieces to recreate one of the illustrations from the book. After recreating, can your child make an image that is all their own?



Purple Fruit Kabobs. For this activity you will need blueberries, blackberries, purple grapes, and bamboo skewers. Have your child prepare the fruit by washing it thoroughly. Next, show your child the wooden skewers they will use to make the kabobs, giving special attention and instruction on how to avoid being poked by the end of the skewers. Then, ask them to make their own fruit kabobs. Will they make patterns with their fruit? Will they sort it before beginning? Eating fruit, or any food really, is always a bit more fun when it's on a stick!



Go for a Hike. Get out shoes appropriate for hiking and a water bottle. "Harold knew that the higher up he went, the farther he could see." Find a local hiking trail that starts at a lower elevation than where it leads up to. If there isn't a hiking trail nearby, you could also find a big hill in your neighborhood to walk up together. As you work your way up the hill together, stop every once in awhile to take in the view. Ask your child, "What do you see? What do you feel? What do you hear? What is different then when you were lower? Do these things change as you make your way higher and higher?"



Dot Sticker Names. The materials you will need for this activity are a piece of recycled cardboard, a Sharpie marker, and purple dot stickers. Start by writing your child's name in large letters on the recycled cardboard making sure to write it the "kindergarten way" (capitalize the first letter with the remaining letters lowercase and all very neat). Next, have your child cover up their name by neatly placing the dot stickers all along each line that makes up each letter. This activity helps to build fine motor skills by requiring the child to use a pincer grasp when removing the dot stickers from the sticker sheet. This grasp is the same grasp used when using a pencil or pen.



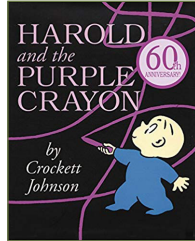
Crayon Resist. For this activity gather watercolor paper, or cardstock, a purple crayon, a paintbrush, a piece of white printer paper, a pencil, watercolor paints, a glue stick, and your child's literature journal. Have your child imagine they are Harold and ask them to draw a simple image with the purple crayon just as Harold did. If they are having a difficult time deciding what to draw, have your



child choose one illustration they enjoyed from the story and recreate it on their paper. Once their drawing is complete, have them watercolor over the entire piece of paper. The crayon will resist the paint. Set the artwork aside. Next, have your child tell you their favorite part of the story. As they share, write their words down on a separate piece of paper. Lastly, take your child's artwork and their dictation and glue it into their literature journal—a special journal which will hold all of their journaling assignments for the entire school year. Be sure to add the date and the title of the book to your child's journal.



Materials



Harold and the
Purple Crayon



Purple Crayon



Purple Dot
Stickers



Bamboo Skewers

Hiking Shoes
Lavender Essential Oil
Nourishment Ingredients
Purple Craft Items (glitter, pom
poms, ribbon, yarn, beads,
stickers, tissue paper etc.)
Playdough Ingredients,
recipe at end of document
Water Bottle
Watercolor Paper or Cardstock
Food Coloring
Literature Journal
Cardboard, 1 piece

Cardstock
Construction Paper
Glue Stick
Markers
Masking/Painter's Tape
Paintbrush
Pencil
Scissors
Sharpie Marker
Standard Unit Blocks
Watercolors Paints
White Glue
White Printer Paper



Recommended Products



Harold T-Shirt



Block Crayons



Crayon Rocks



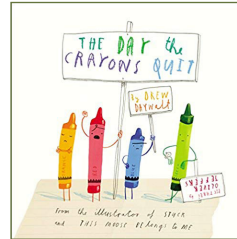
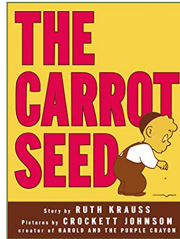
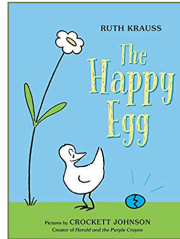
Non-Toxic
Face and Body
Crayons



Confetti Crayons



Recommended Books



Other Books by the Author

