



Willy's Hats

By Josie Stewart and Lynn Salem

8 pages/65 words



Synopsis

Dad and Willy pile on Willy's hat collection, which includes the hat that Grandma made. The game goes on until the hats all fall down.

Before the First Page

Each child names or draws a favorite hat or cap. As students share, predict which of these hats Willy will have in his collection. Read several pages of *Caps for Sale* by Esphyr Slobodkina. Share with the students that Willy and his Dad play a game with his hats. Willy looks like the man in *Caps for Sale* when he piles his hats on his head.

Set-Up for Success

Reinforce the language of the text during the discussion in *Before the First Page*. Preview the book to check the predictions students made during the discussion and to discover Willy's favorite hat, "**the hat that Grandma made.**"

Independent Reading – Students may need support with **bicycle helmet**, page 3; **pirate**, page 4.

Guided Reading – Review the suggestions for *Independent Reading*. Include support for **baseball**, page 3; **now**, page 8.

Learning about Print

- Punctuation marks – period, commas in a series, exclamation point, apostrophe used in possessives, ellipsis (...).

- Directionality on multiple lines of text.
- Sequencing.
- Capitalization of proper nouns – **Willy, Dad, Grandma.**

Key Words and Phrases

Willy He likes his and hat

Learning about Words

The vocabulary in this book provides opportunities to introduce, practice and enrich the following:

- Compound words – **baseball.**
- Word building – Change **like** to **bike, likes, liked.**
- Possessive – **Willy's, Dad's.**
- Plural – **hats.**
- Sound of soft **c** and hard **c** – **bicycle.**
- Word segments – **hat, that, Grandma, Willy, fall.**
- Proper nouns and pronouns – **Willy, Dad, Grandma, he.**

Assessment Opportunities

The following problem-solving behaviors can be observed and recorded:

- Using pictures as a source of information.
- Using letters and sounds to solve unfamiliar words.
- Reading the punctuation – commas in a series.
- Using word segments to solve unfamiliar words.
- Self-correcting some errors.
- Increasing fluency as the story progresses.

After the Last Page

- Rewrite the story as “*Willy’s Shoes*.”
- Continue the story with additional hats for Willy. Example: cowboy hat, football helmet.
- * Write a story using the child’s own name and a different article of clothing.
- Make a hat from materials in the collage box. Have a parade. Sing “Yankee Doodle.”

Throughout the Day

Math

- Count and sort hats.
- Graph favorite hats.

Problem-Solving

- * Willy has a yellow hat, a purple hat and a green hat. He has a red sweater, an orange sweater and a blue sweater. How many different combinations of hats and sweaters can Willy make? Draw a picture to solve.

Social Studies

- Explore hats associated with different careers.
- * Display many different hats. Take turns wearing the hats and role-playing the workers wearing the hats.
- Explore different styles of hats and purposes of hats from around the world.

Science

- Discuss the weather and an appropriate hat for each season.
- * Predict how many hats can be piled up before the stack falls over. Test the prediction. What variables change the results?

Creative Dramatics

- Put on a hat. Act out a character who would wear the hat. Example:
A baseball player when wearing a baseball hat.

The Home Connection

- Design and make your own hat.
- Design party hats for the next family party.
- Count and tally all the hats in one closet.

* Show What You Know – a document to keep

Activities marked with an asterisk (*) are appropriate for assessment.

Read on...

Brown, Beverly Swerdlow. *Mouse’s Baby Blanket*.

Corbett, Sara. *Hats Off to Hats!*

Howard, Elizabeth Fitzgerald. *Aunt Flossie’s Hats*.

Keats, Ezra Jack. *Jennie’s Hat*.

Kroll, Steven. *Princess Abigail and the Wonderful Hat*.

Miller, Margaret. *Whose Hat?*

Morris, Ann. *Hats, Hats, Hats*.

Nodset, Joan. *Who Took the Farmer’s Hat?*

Rohmer, Harriet. *Uncle Nacho’s Hat/El Sombrero Del Tío Nacho*.

Scheller, Melanie. *My Grandfather’s Hat*.

Slobodkina, Esphyr. *Caps for Sale*.

