



**92NY Theater
for Young
Audiences**

MOTHER GOOSE

Curriculum Guide



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The fun doesn't have to stop at the theater. Keep the fun going and continue the experience of Mother Goose at home or in the classroom!

This curriculum guide is designed in connection with [92NY Theater for Young Audiences](#) production of *Mother Goose*. The activities are not only meant to engage children artistically, but kinesthetically and through sensory learning as well. Many activities connect with one another. These activities can be done at home with your little one, or in a classroom led by a teacher.

The hidden benefits of this curriculum guide include:

- Gross motor development
- Fine motor development
- Language development
- Social emotional development
- Building literacy skills

Early development and learning is multidimensional and multifaceted. Children are active learners, and in an effort to prepare them to be 21st century learners, this curriculum guide is meant to be active, creative, physical, and playful. It is vital at this stage in their development that children are learning through creative and physical play, not only for their academic growth, but their physical growth and development as well.

As children approach these activities, and learning in general, we want them to be curious, engage in problem solving — approaching problem solving with creativity and imagination. When children engage in play, it is as a means of exploration as well as fun.

The physical goals of these activities are to work on **spatial awareness**, develop **coordination** and control of large **muscle groups**, combine sequences of **large motor skills**, demonstrate **eye-hand coordination**, develop fine motor skills, and engage in a variety of physical activities. Indicators of these goals include, but are not limited to:

- **Engages in rigorous large motor activities** (e.g., marching, hopping, running, jumping, dancing) in increasingly longer periods of time as skill and endurance develops
- **Participates** in activities designed to strengthen major muscle groups
- **Demonstrates ability to use fine motor skills** (e.g., engages in finger plays, uses materials such as pencils, paint brushes, eating utensils and blunt scissors effectively)
- **Manipulates small objects with ease** (e.g., fits objects into holes, strings wooden beads, stacks mini blocks, uses geo boards, etc.)
- **Explores, practices, and performs skill sets** (e.g., throwing, pushing, pulling, catching, balancing, etc.)
- **Participates in a series of large motor movements or activities** (e.g., dancing, pedaling, following the leader, participating in games/sports)
- **Displays an upright posture** when standing or seated
- **Maintains balance** during sitting, standing, and movement activities
- **Runs, jumps, walks in a straight line,** and hops on one foot

Mother Goose Movement and Mother Goose Eats are great activities to help build physical skills. Linguistically, children should be continuously building a vocabulary. Children will communicate in various ways (ie drawing, gestures, sign language, vocally).

These activities below invite children to communicate in various ways, and each one is valuable towards building communication skills. Children should begin to understand a text, participate in discussions about a text, and share information about the text. These discussions may not be lengthy, but should still be related to the text.

The Mother Goose is LIT! and Mother Goose Masterpieces are great activities to build language and communication skills. It is critical to remember that ALL children can learn and achieve developmental progress, and ALL children learn differently. The activities in this curriculum guide offer a variety of ways for children to engage with Mother Goose.

The most important thing is to have fun!





MOTHER GOOSE

Masterpieces

After creating your art masterpieces, you can use them in other imaginative activities found throughout this guide.



G is for Goose

Visit [this link](#) for instructions on how to make a Goose!

You'll need: paper plate, scissors, white feathers, orange paper, Elmer's glue, and googly eyes

You can get creative and add colorful fabric to use as a bonnet for Mother Goose.



Paper Bag Puppets

You can create some magical characters, including your favorites from Mother Goose with the simplest of materials and your imagination!

You'll need: a paper bag (lunch bag size is best) and artistic writing supplies (markers, crayons, colored pencils, etc).

If you're feeling fancy, you can add yarn, colored paper shapes, or fabric with glue too!

Pro Tip: the smooth side lays flat on the hard surface, with the back flap folded flat on top and facing you.



Hickory Dickory Clock!

Tick tick tick tick it's time to make a clock!

Visit [this link](#) for instructions from The Mad House on how to make a clock out of paper plates!

You'll need: paper plates, paper fasteners, pens or crayons, scissors, cardstock, and number stickers (optional). If you don't have cardstock or paper fasteners, you can use playdough to create the hands of the clock.



Can You Find Mother Goose?

Mary and Lamb need help finding Mother Goose. Can you help them?

Hide the Paper Plate Goose masterpiece (see pg 7) around the house and see if your little one can find it! You can hide white feathers around as clues to draw the game out as well.



MOTHER GOOSE

Story Time

After creating your art masterpieces, you can use them in other imaginative activities found throughout this guide.



Find Mother Goose at Your Local Library

Take a trip to your local library and check out Mother Goose stories. There are numerous tales with Mother Goose.

Some favorites include: *A Children's Treasury of Mother Goose*; *My Mother Goose: A Collection of Favorite Rhymes, Songs and Concepts*; and *Mother Hubbard's Cupboard: A Mother Goose Surprise Book*.

Compare the books with the production you saw at 92NY. Did you prefer one over the other? Why? Was there anything similar between the book and the production? Any differences? Can you identify any characters you saw in the production at 92NY in the books you read?

Pro Tip: Add a little drama! Use your Paper Bag Puppet characters to act out the nursery rhymes.



Sensory Writing

Have some fun writing with your little one using some sensory materials.

You'll need: Heavy duty ziploc bags, washable tempera paints (various colors), and duct tape.

Instructions: Choose 2-3 paint colors. Squirt the paint into the heavy duty ziploc bag. Press the air out, seal the bag and reinforce seal with duct tape. Tape the bag to the window, table, wall or floor. Kids can now have fun using their fingers to mix colors and write letters.

Challenge them to write 4 letter words found in Mother Goose stories! Can they identify words that rhyme?

The best part, NO MESS!



MOTHER GOOSE

Movement

Bring joy to your living room or classroom
with the following movement activities.



Dance It Out!

Singing and dancing is a wonderful, kinesthetic way to learn. You don't have to be a dancer or singer to learn or have fun with this activity. [Visit this link](#) or use your preferred music app to play a favorite version. As you sing and dance, challenge your little one to move like the characters or animals in the song.

For example: When singing "[Three Little Kittens](#)", move like kitty cats! Or, when singing "[Hickory Dickory Dock](#)", move like mice climbing up the clock!

Add: You can add variety by dancing with colorful scarves or tissue paper; homemade musical instruments; fun lights; bubbles.

Advance Level 1:

Call out different motor activities throughout the song!

- March
- Hop on one foot
- Jump from two feet to two feet
- Skip
- Gallop or Chasse
- Kick
- Bear Walks
- Tip Toe Walk

Advance Level 2:

Challenge kids focus and listening skills. Have them freeze whenever you pause the music. For a double fun challenge, have little ones move like an animal and freeze like a Mother Goose character or object. For example: Move like a lamb and freeze like Mary; Move like Mouse and freeze like a clock; Move like kittens and freeze like a mitten; and so much more!

Engage with the Mother Goose stories with a physical challenge. This activity builds gross motor skills, strengthens your little one's core, and tests their balance. The video will give a demonstration for various age groups and abilities.

Jack & Jill [Visit here for a physical challenge demonstration set to a Mother Goose classic.](#)

A vibrant, pastel-colored collage featuring various Mother Goose-themed illustrations. At the top left is a pink top hat with a white label that says '10/6'. To its right is a blue crown. Further right are pink musical notes. Below the hat is a green landscape with a pink bush. In the center, the words 'MOTHER GOOSE' are written in a large, black, serif font. A brown book with a white goose on its cover is positioned behind the word 'GOOSE'. To the right of the book is a pink shoe with a white heart. Below the shoe is a pink cake with white frosting. At the bottom left is a pink sailboat on blue waves. At the bottom center is a large pink apple. At the bottom right are blue trees and a pink musical note.

MOTHER GOOSE

Eats

Make snack time fun and educational
with these Mother Goose themed snacks!



It is critical for early childhood development to talk to your little one about healthy habits.

At this age, children should begin to develop an awareness and understanding of healthy habits, including nutrition. Use the following themed snacks as a way to talk about food choices in relation to overall health.

Additionally, these snacks can also be used as a way to engage in learning through the senses. You can make snack time educational by reading “Mary Had A Little Lamb” or “Three Little Kittens” while eating!

Sheep Fruit Snacks

[Visit this link](#) for an engaging and nutritious snack created by Kitchen Fun with My Three Sons.

You'll need: banana, black and green grapes, a knife (to cut fruit with) and a plate. For optional decorating you'll need: mini marshmallows and raisins.

Kitty Cat Bagels

[Visit this link](#) for a yummy, adorable treat created by My 3 Little Kittens.

You'll need: cream cheese, carrots, celery, pretzel sticks, strawberries, raisins, a bagel, a knife, and a food processor.

If you don't have a food processor, or want to save time, buy premade vegetable cream cheese spread.



MOTHER GOOSE

Math

Provide a memorable math lesson
with these hands-on activities!



Telling Time

Have some fun learning to tell time with your Hickory Dickory Clock! (see pg 8) Talk to your little one about the hour hand and the minute hand and how to use them. Show them how the clock should look for specific times (5:00, 7:00, 7:30, etc). Challenge them to do it on their own!

Hickory Dickory Musical Chairs

Do you have a group of kids who are learning to tell time? Try this spin on classic Musical Chairs from We Are Teachers; it can be used as either a fun review activity or a fun assessment!

Print out the [blank clock sheet](#). Have kids write out a time on the clock. Everyone's clock should read different times, and don't forget to put your name at the top! Instruct them to leave the clock sheets at their desk/chair/spot, and take the Musical Clocks List with them.

Instruct them to walk around the room as you play music. When you stop the music, they have to go to the clock nearest them, write down the name and time on their Musical Clocks List. Keep going until the kids have stopped at each clock, or completed their Musical Clocks List.

References & Resources

- New York State Physical Education Learning Standards
- Resource Guides for School Success: Kindergarten Early Learning Standards
- Resource Guides for School Success: Prekindergarten Early Learning Standards
- National Core Arts Standards

Creator Credits

- [PunkRock Preschool](#)
- [My 3 Little Kittens](#)
- [Mum in The Mad House](#)
- Jen Walshaw
- [We Are Teachers](#)
- [Kitchen Fun with My Three Sons](#)
- Jill Mills

92NY Theater for Young Audiences (TYA)

Kid-sized musicals. Giant-sized heart. The magic of musical theater in classic and original productions created especially for young audiences and their families — introducing a new generation to the joy of the art form in an intimate setting with unforgettable performances.

92NY.org/TYA | 212.415.5551

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