

Joel Says

Before the book is read, ask...

How do you zoom when you need to move fast?

Stop during the book and ask...

How is the child's mama zooming? Why do you think she might need to use a wheelchair to zoom?

After reading the book, ask...

How old is the boy in the book? How does he feel about his mama?

Mama Zooms

Author & Illustrator:
Jane Cowen-Fletcher
Scholastic Inc.

Materials

One or more low step stools; props and costume items.

Activities

Children who are able can stand on step stools and hold their arms out to pretend they are zooming. Ask them to describe where they are going and what they see. Work with the children to create drawings or paintings of themselves zooming over or through places they talked about.

Try talking about how people zoom, physically or with the help of different types of things that move (cars, buses, airplanes, and so forth). Let the children form groups and choose three types of zooming and different places the zoomers will go. Provide each group with props and costume items, and let them create a short play about zooming. For younger children, allow time for unstructured group presentations; for older ones, prompt them in writing a script with parts for each child. Older children may also enjoy practicing improvisation techniques in preparation for their play, such as acting out sequences of events in pairs or playing charades.



New Shoes, Red Shoes

Author & Illustrator: **Susan Rollings**
Watts Publishing Inc.

Materials

Old magazines, scissors.

Activities

Read the story to the children page by page and ask the children to repeat the lines and act out each of the kinds of shoes mentioned, using movements that make them think of the different kinds of shoes.

Let the children cut pictures from old magazines or ads from newspapers to make a collage of different kinds of shoes. Pictures could also be sorted by who might wear the shoes (i.e. girls, boys, men, women, anybody, and so on).

Older children can use the book format of *New Shoes, Red Shoes* to write a story together about socks or hats instead of shoes. Students can make a book of the story for their classroom's library or book nook by drawing pictures that help tell the story. They can also act out the story as a group, with part of the students reading and the others dramatizing the story.

Joel Says

Before the book is read, ask...

By looking at the cover, what do you think this book will be about? Why do you think the girl looks happy?

Stop during the book and ask...

Why does the girl need new shoes?

After reading the book, ask...

Why was it important for the girl to go with Mom to get the shoes? What kinds of shoes did she see on the way to the shoe store? How did they travel to the shoe store? Where did the girl wear her new shoes? What kinds of shoes did she see there?