

ZEKE'S FUN AT HOME ACTIVITY CORNER

April 22 2020

Dear Zoo-Friends,

Today we are going to **celebrate the beautiful planet on which we live by discovering all sorts of things in EARTH WEEK!** Today's lesson is called, "**Let's Recycle!**"

S.T.R.E.A.M.S.:

Science – all aspects of our physical world

Technology - looking up topics online, viewing pictures and videos

Recreation - movement and fitness – free and structured physical activities

Engineering - little hands building with blocks, Legos®, scissors, stirring, transferring, lacing – anything that uses the hands and fingers

The Arts - literature, art & music

Math – sorting, adding, subtracting, subitizing, measuring, time, comparing sizes/weights, etc.

Socialization - learning about self, family, community, world

Do This Daily:

- 1) **Signal and sound the "a – z's"** every day. Older children can practice their word list.
- 2) Read a wonderful **literature book** aloud every day! There is good book called, *Things I Can Do to Help My World* by Melanie Walsh. It is a simple book that brings **awareness** to children on how to conserve our resources (water, paper, electricity) and practical things that everyone in the family can do. Signal and sound first letters in important words. Ask and answer questions. Involve your child in the reading.
- 3) Walk through the house and point out and discuss all the things that are mentioned in the book and add: turn off lights, be careful with water-use, use less paper, etc.
- 4) Read, the *Zoo-phonics Mini-Book*, #39, "Nigel's Pet." (The mini-book and lesson plans are below.)
- 5) **Word Meaning.** Discover the word, "**recycle.**" What does "**recycle**" mean? The prefix "**re**" means "**to do again.**" Start there! The factory takes a product that we have used and recycled and they can either **re-use it** ("**use it again**") to make the same product or packaging or make a different product!

Look at the symbol on the **recycling container**. See the arrows? That means "flowing, changing, moving." Paper, plastics, metal and glass become new products!



S.T.R.E.A.M.S.

The theme for today's lessons is "**recycling**" and **Robbie Rabbit is our STAR** again because "**robby rabbit recycles!**" (See "robby rabbit recycles!" coloring page below.)

- 1) **Social:**
Today's lesson is all about **sharing and caring!**
 - a) **A Quick Review.** Review how plants and people **share** air (from yesterday's lesson). What does "share" and "sharing" mean? Talk again about how important plants are to our health...body, mind and heart.
 - b) **Relate.** What does "**sharing**" and "**caring**" have to do with recycling? Recycling is part of **caring** for ourselves and others. *We "share" the responsibility because we care.*
- 2) **Technology:** Go online to various kid-friendly "recycling" video sites. Keep the concept simple. Go in more depth for older children.
- 3) **Engineering:** Your child(ren) will have **busy hands** with this project. a) If you do not have one, set up a **re-cycling center** in your home (mudroom, garage or backyard). Look through your **trash** and see what you can recycle. If you already recycle, this is a good time to take each item and talk about why you can recycle it. If you don't already have or cannot buy **recycle bins**, make them from cardboard boxes. Let children write the words or color in your lettering: glass, paper, plastic, metal. b) You can teach your *youngest* child to pick up **trash** (wherever you are) and put **cans**, paper, and plastic in the **recycling bins**. Talk as you do this! (And Signal, too!)



DID YOU KNOW? In the U.S. in 2016, over 2.9 billion pounds of plastic bottles (for beverages, household cleaners, detergents, etc.) were recycled. Today, nearly 30% of plastic bottles are recycled. It's 2020, let's try for 100%!

- 4) **Art & Music:** Put on some fun music and create a **collage** from your recycle bins! Cut up bits of plastic, fabric, labels, card board packaging. (This will require some help from you.) Have your child glue the pieces onto recycled cardboard! Paint or color in between the pieces.



FIELD TRIP! Even in “shuttered times” the recycling and garbage plants are still working. See if you could just drive through and take a peek at the big earth movers. See how they separate and recycle materials.

Language Arts and Math Activities for Older Preschoolers and Kindergartners – Older children will participate in all the fun activities above. Here are some language arts and math activities to extend their learning.

- 1) **Write and Draw:** Have your child draw pictures of items s/he has recycled recently. Using the “Recycling Bins Activity Sheet” below, have him/her draw near the appropriate recycling bin (metal, plastic, paper, glass).
- 2) **Handwriting Practice:** Practice writing the words, “recycle,” “metal,” “plastic,” “paper,” and “glass.” (See the practice paper below.)
- 3) **Word-Play:**
 - a) **Add words to your list:** “recycle,” “metal,” “plastic,” “paper,” and “glass,” sun, soil, rock, insect; plant, flower, grass, seed, tree, cloud; bee, tree. Focus on the first letters in the new words and the “pl” blend.
 - b) **Define and Discuss.** Ask your child to explain and use these words: “recycle,” “metal,” “plastic,” “paper,” and “glass.” The more your child is given opportunities to verbalize his/her thoughts and opinions the better at it s/he’ll be. This is a great vocabulary development activity.
- 4) **Math:**
 - a) **Weight.** Hopefully you have a scale in your home because today you will weigh items. Start first with your child. How much does s/he weigh? Match that to her or his height that you did last week. (Keep a record.) *Try weighing these:* Weigh empty plastic bottles, papers, card board, metal cans. Do this by placing a cardboard box on the scale and putting all of one type of recycle-ables in the box. Have your child note that glass and metal is heavier than paper or plastic. However, they all “add up.”
 - b) **Record Weights Daily.** After a week of recycling and weighing, see how much help you are giving to your community and world by caring and being responsible.

PRACTICAL THINGS YOU CAN DO TO HELP OUR EARTH!

- 1) Be aware of your responsibility. Be consistent. Care.
- 2) Recycle.
- 3) Don’t let the water run! Water is precious.
- 4) Turn off lights when you are not in the room.
- 5) Take cloth or re-usable bags to the store.
- 6) Re-purpose things, don’t just toss.
- 7) If you don’t want it, share it with someone who needs it.
- 8) Pick up litter when you see it on the ground. Clean an empty lot!
- 9) Don’t use too much paper.
 - a) Use both sides of drawing paper.
 - b) Use scratch paper on which to draw.
 - c) Use wash rags and dish rags instead of paper towels.
 - d) Don’t use too much toilet paper! Count your squares!
- 10) Keep plants close to you. Breath with them! Share the air! Don’t forget to water them.

Lesson Plan Book #39

“Nigel’s Pet” (Focus: Mixed short vowels, VC/CVC and Blend Words)

This *Mini-Book* is comprised of VC/CVC words, Blends (twig, stick, nest, soft, and, best), a /k/ sound (stick), a Digraph (the), Schwa words (the, a) and Nigel Nightowl’s name.

- a. Write the vocabulary words on the board for all to see. Discuss any unfamiliar vocabulary with your students. Show a real twig. Discuss the different definitions of the word “pad.”

Locate “st,” “ft,” “ck,” “nd,” and “tw” *Beginning Sound Flash Cards*. Show your students how to Signal each Card. Remember to learn both sides, including the sentence. Relate the words in this *Mini-Book* to these Sound Flash Cards.

Take special notice of the “ck” sound in the word, “stick.” It is neither a Blend nor a Digraph. Signal both letters but make only one “k” sound. Tell the students that we really don’t know who makes the sound. Is it Catina or Kayo?

Spell out the vocabulary words with the AACs prior to reading this *Mini-Book*.

- b. Read this *Mini-Book* aloud to your students. This *Mini-Book* contains several blends. Now have students read this *Mini-Book* independently (SVR). Gather together for a third reading experience as your students take responsibility for reading the text aloud. Have each read one sentence or page only.
- c. Ask these questions: Who is the star of this *Mini-Book*? (Nigel Nightowl.) What does Nigel have? (He has a pet.) Look at the details in the picture. Have your students verbalize. What is Nigel giving the baby bird on page 2? (A stick with berries on it.) Describe the bird’s nest. Which words does the text use to describe the nest? (Twig and stick.) What words does the text use to describe the nest on page 3? (It is soft and has a pad.) Does the baby bird look comfortable? Everyone get on the floor and get into your most comfortable sleeping position. Who is the pet’s best pal? (Nigel.) Do they look like good friends? What makes a good friend. Give time to discuss.

Discuss how birds might make a nest. The text says “the nest is soft and it has a pad.” Have the students guess of what the pad is made. (Feathers, hair, little bits of cloth, etc.)

Optional: Make a pine cone bird feeder. It’s simple. One pine cone is needed for each student. Buy a large can of smooth peanut butter. Have each student spread peanut butter on each pine cone “leaf.” When this is complete, have them sprinkle birdseed over the entire pine cone. (The seed will stick to the peanut butter.) Tie yarn to the top of the pine cone and instruct the students to hang it outside where they can observe the birds eating the seed and peanut butter.

- d. Discuss the use of capital letters in names and at the beginning of sentences. Signal each capital.
- e. Discuss the punctuation in each sentence. Point out the comma in the text. Note the possessive apostrophe in the name “Nigel’s” and in the word, “pet’s.” Discuss. Use your students’ names to come up with great examples of possessives. Demonstrate how to Signal the apostrophe in the air with your index finger.
- f. Have children define “complete sentences” and designate “subject,” “noun,” “verb,” (the word “is” and “has” are verbs, reflecting the state of being), and adjectives.

Vocabulary Words:

1. Nigel Nightowl
2. has*
3. a*
4. pet
5. the*
6. is*
7. fed*
8. in*
9. twig
10. and*
11. stick
12. nest
13. soft
14. it*
15. pad
16. pet’s
17. best*
18. pal

* High Frequency Words



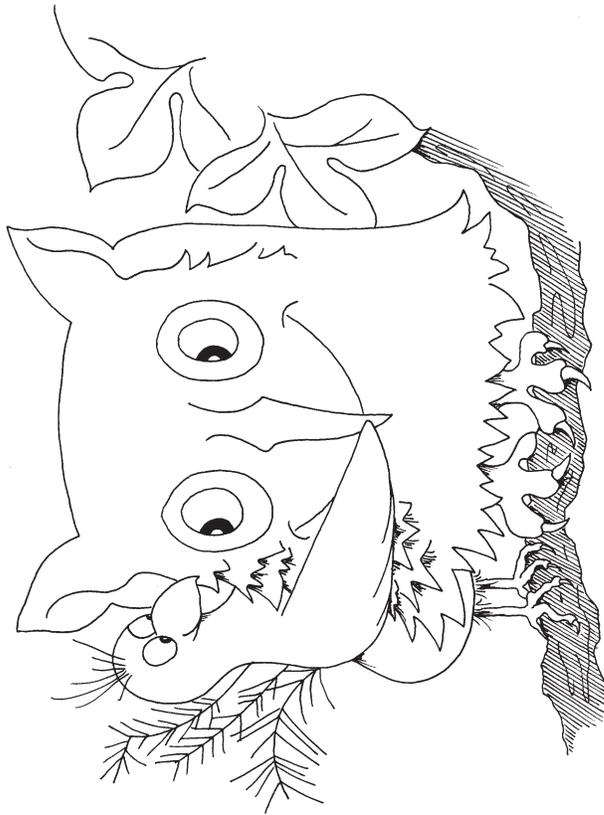
The pet is fed in a twig and stick nest.



The nest is soft, and it has a pad.



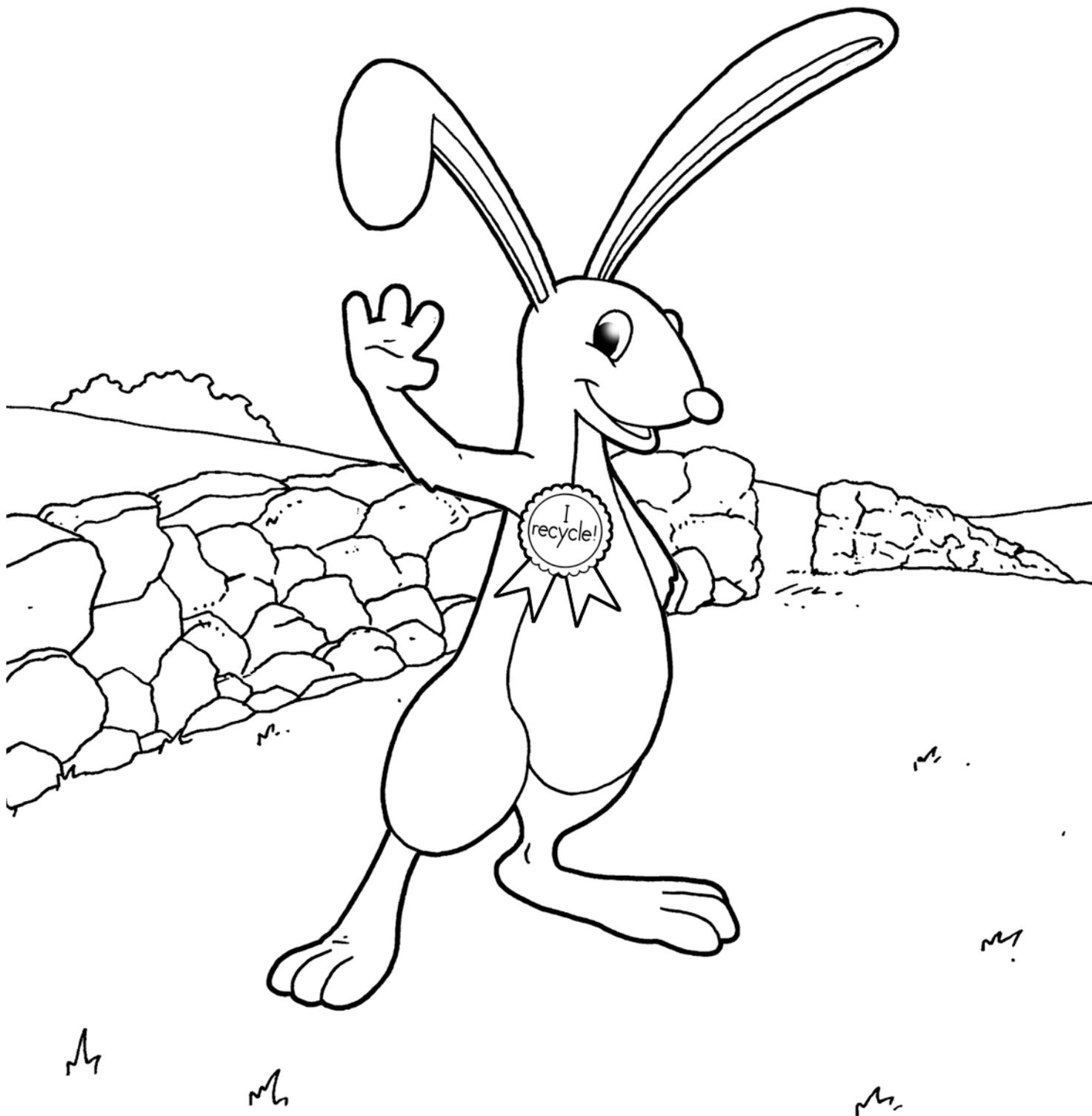
Nigel is the pet's best pal.



Nigel's Pet
Book #39



Nigel Nightowl has a pet.





The Mnemonic & Multisensory Language Arts Program

Earth Day Handwriting Practice

recycle recycle recycle

Now you try it!

glass glass glass

Now you try it!

metal metal metal

Now you try it!

paper paper paper

Now you try it!

plastic plastic plastic

Now you try it!

We care! We care!

Now you try it!

Recycling Bins Activity Sheet

