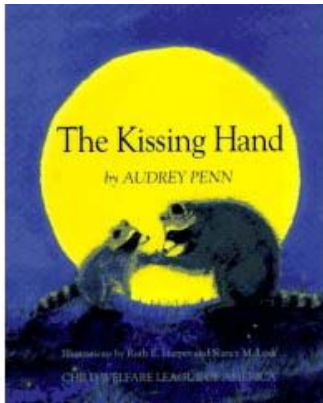


The Kissing Hand Written By: Audrey Penn ✍ Illustrated By: Ruth E. Harper and Nancy M. Leak



Goal: To help children realize that their parents still love them even when they are separated.

1. Show the cover of the book and ask the children to read the title.
2. Ask what the mother raccoon is doing to the baby raccoon on the cover.
3. Read the story stopping from time to time to ask:
  - a. Where does Chester want to stay? Why?
  - b. What does Mrs. Raccoon tell Chester?
  - c. What will Chester make? Play with? Read? Swing on?
  - d. What is Mrs. Raccoon going to tell Chester? How old is it?
  - e. What did Mrs. Raccoon do to Chester's hand?
  - f. What did Mrs. Raccoon call this?
  - g. What went from Chester's hand to his heart?
  - h. What is Chester to do when he feels lonely and needs loving from home?
  - i. Does the kiss stick to Chester's hand?
  - j. What went with Chester wherever he went?
  - k. Before going to school, what does Chester give Mrs. Raccoon?
  - l. What did Mrs. Raccoon's heart sing?
4. What does The Kissing Hand stand for?

Activity:

- ❖ Draw a picture of the child's hand on paper, have the child kiss it and draw a red heart, have the child decorate the hand, place in a sheet protector or laminate it, and give to the parent with an explanation of The Kissing Hand.
- ❖ Have the child write a small note to go with the hand to explain The Kissing Hand in their own words.
- ❖ Ask the deployed parent/ member do the same for a child, so the child has their own kissing hand while they are gone.
- ❖ Make a point of seeing also how big the child's hand is now, then see how big it is when the parent comes home.

Lesson Plan written by:

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