

## Activities for *Winnie-the-Pooh*

### Chapter I *In Which We Are Introduced to Winnie-the-Pooh and Some Bees, and the Stories Begin*

We are introduced to Winnie the Pooh and Christopher Robin through our narrator. Pooh's desire for honey sends him floating unsuccessfully above the trees with a balloon until Christopher Robin saves him.

#### **Kick-off Balloon**

You may want to kick off the day's study by writing a short message from you or Pooh like "Today is a very special day! We are about to begin a wonderful journey together through One Hundred Acre Woods. So grab the hand of a dearest friend and away we go." on a large balloon for the class. You can find a large cheap balloon, inflate it temporarily without tying it, write the message and then deflate it until you are ready.

#### **Read Me a Story**

Share with your class the fact that A.A. Milne wrote these stories for his only child, Christopher Robin Milne. Each of the stories included in this book are told by Milne to Christopher Robin with thoughts and comments interjected in italics. Point out these spots in the book as places where the author and his son are talking about the story. Ask your class if there are some special stories that their families like to share again and again. Let children share their experiences. Emphasize how special these story sharings were to A.A. Milne and his son and tell them that that night they will talk to their families about their special story-sharing times. That evening, you may want to send home attachment, *Sharing Stories*. The following school day, let children share their thoughts and family stories.

#### **Buzz Bees**

Buzzing bees play a large role in this first Pooh story. Read Pooh's little song on page seven together. It is printed out on attachment *Pooh's Buzz Song*. When you read the song, have your class chant the "Buzz, Buzz, Buzz, Buzz" line. Then break into small groups to try and list as many animal sounds as possible. Pull together as a class after some time and have each group share by making the sounds of the animals they thought of. Create a class list of animal sounds. As an extension, you might have children create their own song about their favorite animal sound.

#### **The short "U" sound**

Print out the word "buzz" on large easel paper and talk about the sound that the short "u" makes in that word. Then challenge the class to come up with more words with that sound. Challenge them to find more short "u" sounds at home to share with the class.

#### **Honey with a Balloon?**

Read up until the middle of page 12 where Pooh says, "I do." Pose the question to the class, "How will Winnie get honey with a balloon? Have them brainstorm in groups to

come up with an idea. Ask the children to sketch their favorite idea on paper showing how Pooh gets honey with a balloon. Everybody can then share his or her ideas.

## Sharing Stories

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

In class tomorrow, we would like to share some of our personal memories of story-sharing at home. Please take some time to sit with your child and jot down some thoughts to the following:

What are some of the favorite books you like to share as a family?

Where do you like to share stories with your child? (In bed under the covers, in front of the fireplace, outside, etc.)

Are there stories you like to create on your own for your child? If so, please explain briefly.

What special memories do you have of sharing stories with your child?

Please feel free to send in a favorite family story with your child tomorrow!

*Pooh's Buzz Song*

From Chapter One of *Winnie-the-Pooh*, p. 7

*I sn't it funny  
How a bear likes honey?  
Buzz! Buzz! Buzz!  
I wonder why he does?*

