

Babies

Introduction

Try this *HyperStudio* stack at the beginning of the school year. It will provide young children with an increased awareness about themselves, their classmates, and their families. Children will love to talk about themselves!

Materials

- Computer
- *HyperStudio*
- Color printer
- External speaker, scanner, and/or QuickCam (optional)

Ahead of Time

- Create a basic template from *HyperStudio* for the book about babies. Once created, this template can be used each year. Include a location for the child's baby picture, current photo, a baby drawing created by the child, and an additional icon.
- Use *Kid Pix* or *HyperStudio* to draw a "baby" for the front cover of the *HyperStudio* book.
- Through the newsletter, ask families to have their children each bring a baby doll to the classroom to share with the other children.
- Ask parents to send a baby picture of their child. Post this photo on the bulletin board.
- Scan baby photos and save them as PICT files for use in the *HyperStudio* stack.

Introductory Activity

- Post the children's and staff's baby pictures on the bulletin board.
- Videotape any animals in the classroom such as gerbils and their babies, or take pictures of baby gerbils. Plan to include these photos or videotapes in the "Baby" *HyperStudio* stack.
- Provide books about babies in the reading center.

Computer Activity

- Record the children's voices to accompany their pictures in the *HyperStudio* stack.
- Record each child in front of the video camera. Ask each child his or her name, age, and what they remember about when they were babies.
- Ask the children to draw pictures of themselves when they were babies on an 8"x11" sheet of paper. Save or scan it as a PICT. Place the pictures in the *HyperStudio* stack.
- Gather children to the technology center. Calibrate *HyperStudio* for recording. The facilitator says, "*This book is by . . .*" and each child records his or her own name. Immediately after recording the children, save the recording by pressing "Command (Open Apple) S."

- Set up the technology center with the “Babies” *HyperStudio* stack. This could be done for Open House or a Family Night. Family members can view the “Baby” *HyperStudio* stack with their children.

Extended Activity

- Use the software program, *Ruff’s Bone*. Develop a theme around the family members or pets. The following books support this theme:

Arthur’s Baby (M. Brown)

The Baby’s Catalogue (J. Ahlberg & A. Ahlberg)

Baby-O (N. W. Carlstrom)

A Baby Sister for Frances (R. Hoban)

Chicken Pox (N. Bridwell)

Clifford and the Grouchy Neighbors (N. Bridwell)

Clifford Gets a Job (N. Bridwell)

Clifford the Big Red Dog (N. Bridwell)

Clifford the Firehouse Dog (N. Bridwell)

Clifford the Small Red Puppy (N. Bridwell)

Clifford’s Bedtime (N. Bridwell)

Clifford’s Birthday Party (N. Bridwell)

Clifford’s Christmas (N. Bridwell)

Clifford’s Family (N. Bridwell)

Clifford’s First Halloween (N. Bridwell)

Clifford’s Halloween (N. Bridwell)

Clifford’s Happy Easter (N. Bridwell)

Clifford’s Manners (N. Bridwell)

Clifford’s Pals (N. Bridwell)

Clifford’s Puppy Days (N. Bridwell)

Clifford’s Word Book (N. Bridwell)

Good Dog, Carl (A. Day)

Here a Chick, There a Chick (B. McMillan)

Hey Diddle Diddle and Baby Bunting (R. Caldecott)

Let Me Tell You About My Baby (R. Banish)

More, More, More, Said the Baby (V. B. Williams)

Mrs. Goose’s Baby (C. Voake)

My Friends (N. Tafuri)

Rodney’s Inside Story (L. Barasch)

So Much (T. Cook)

The Three Bears (B. Barton)

Two New Sneakers (N. Tafuri)

When You Were a Baby (A. Jonas)

Where’s the Baby? (P. Hutchins)

- Create a guessing game with the children’s photos pasted on the bulletin board. See if the children can guess each other’s baby pictures.

Summary

Children will create their own stories about themselves at the computer that will be enjoyed throughout the school year. It is amazing when children select the technology center and independently choose the “Baby” stack from *KidDesk*. Children will talk about themselves, engage in conversation, and share this story with the other children at the technology center.