



Reader's Theater Exercise 19:

Creating Summer Fun Tote Bags

This activity is for teachers and students to prepare for summer reading with Reader's Theater!

All students lose some of their educational progress when they are away from their studies for an extended period of time, and disadvantaged students experience the steepest losses in reading achievement during these times. Providing ways for *all* students to practice their reading over the summer will minimize learning loss and keep children ready for leaping into their next school year with success!

Put together your own Summer Fun Tote Bags with Playbook® Download Print stories for summer reading with parent involvement! A Parent Guide and a Recommended Reader Assignment Guide is included in the document, and Supplemental Activities can be printed for free from our website.

Teacher Directions:

Playbook® Download Print stories are available for purchase online and are intended to have enough copies printed for each student in the class. To view and choose stories, go to <http://www.playbooks.com/catalog> and select "Download and Print Yourself" from the menu on the left. To download free Supplemental Activity Packets available for many of our stories, go to <http://www.playbooks.com/Supplements.shtml>.

Next, have your students each decorate a paper bag with construction paper and other art supplies to make their Summer Fun Tote Bags. Creatively designing their own bags will help them get excited about reading the materials inside.

When the bags are ready, fill them with the stories you have chosen, along with the Parent Guides, Recommended Reader Assignment Guides, and Supplemental Activities for each. Also include the additional free Playbook® activity found on the following pages: ***The Ice Cream Dream*** Take-Home Reading Activity. If you wish, add some of your own favorite reading materials and exercises for your students to work on as well!

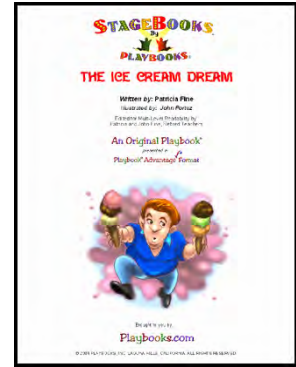
Encourage students to bring their completed Take Home Reading Activities back to school in the fall for teacher review.



Playbooks® Reader's Theater

The Ice Cream Dream

Fun Take-Home Reading Activity



PARENT INTRODUCTION

Reader's Theater is an exciting and powerful reading tool that you and your child can use together to improve your child's reading skills. You may not be familiar with Reader's Theater, so here is a short explanation.

Reading a Playbooks® Reader's Theater story is like reading a play aloud without memorizing your lines. There are many character parts for different family members to read. The story has lots of dialogue written at a variety of reading levels, so everyone can read at their own level. Each reader takes one or more character roles in the story. The words and sentences for each character part appear in a different color, which makes it easy for readers to follow along and read their part. As family members read their characters' parts aloud, they act like their characters using gestures and expressions to show the character's personality and feelings. When children are "performing" a story, they are motivated to read it over and over and improve their acting and reading.

To start this home activity, please choose the character parts for your readers. There are five reading parts which can be distributed between your family members. The parts are written for readers between grades 2 and 4. Please consider the reading stages when you choose the parts for younger readers.

Who's Going to Be Who?

Ask your parents to help divide the character parts between the people who will be reading them. Write their names below next to the character they will be.

Mr. MacRicee _____
 Vanilla Ice Cream Cone _____
 Chocolate Ice Cream Cone _____
 Strawberry Ice Cream Cone _____
 Narrator _____



Fun Family Reading Activity

A short part of the popular Playbook,[®] The Ice Cream Dream

In the Playbook,[®] The Ice Cream Dream, Mr. MacRicee's favorite store is the Sweet Treat Shop where he goes after dinner for a single scoop cone. Things are about to change, though, because Mr. MacRicee likes ice cream a little too much!

Read this small portion of the story shown below with your family and friends. Pretend you are really the character in the story and say the lines just like they would say them. Have fun and bring this little piece of Reader's Theater to life with your voices and dramatic expression!

THE FUN BEGINS.....START READING ALOUD!

Narrator	When tomorrow came, and Mr. MacRicee went shopping for more ice cream, he found that he was wrong about how much room he had left in his freezer.
Mr. MacRicee	Now what can I do?
Vanilla	Buy another freezer!
Chocolate	Buy two more freezers!
Strawberry	Buy three more freezers!
Mr. MacRicee	I can do that, but where will I put them?
Vanilla	In the dining room ... you will <i>dine</i> on ... ice cream.
Chocolate	In the living room ... you will <i>live</i> for ... ice cream.
Strawberry	In the bedroom ... you will <i>wake up</i> to ... ice cream.
Mr. MacRicee	But what about my things?
Vanilla	Do you <i>really</i> need that couch?
Chocolate	Do you <i>really</i> need that dining room set?
Strawberry	Do you <i>really</i> need that bed?
Mr. MacRicee	Well, I....
Vanilla	What's the problem? You can sit on a freezer and watch TV.
Chocolate	What's the problem? You can eat on a freezer.
Strawberry	What's the problem? You can sleep on a freezer.
Narrator	Mr. MacRicee returned to the appliance store to buy more freezers.



Home Activity Sheet

1. Which character role did you read aloud? _____
2. Which person did the best job acting like their character part?

3. I did a really good job reading my part, because _____

4. I could have been better at _____
5. Which character part would you like to read next time, and why?

6. In what other room in his house could Mr. MacRicee put another freezer?

7. Do you want to read the rest of the story?

8. How do you think the story will end? _____
9. _____

Student Name _____ Parent Initials _____ Date _____

