

Discovery Theater



Smithsonian
Associates



HERE WE GO, TEAM!

Recommended for Ages 3 to 6

Pre-K to Grade 1

A Reproducible Learning Guide for Educators

This guide is designed to help educators prepare for, enjoy, and discuss ***Here We Go, Team!***. It contains background, discussion questions and activities appropriate for ages 3-6.

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ABOUT THE SHOW

This Discovery Theater original scores big in a musical play about **sharing and taking turns**, the importance of **personal space**, and the awesome power of **teamwork**. Five-year-olds Bobby and Casey are aspiring soccer stars and best friends— but they’ve ended up on separate teams! The *Creative Tools for Teaching* Ensemble reimagines *Here We Go, Team!* in two languages – fun and educational!

These plays were created as part of in-school residencies promoting **creativity and enriched play in early childhood classrooms**, and are now presented at the Smithsonian to encourage everyone to ‘get in on the act.’ Playing ‘pretend’ as characters in stories encourages sequencing (What comes next?), verbal skills (What color flowers? Why did it happen like that?), math (How many cupcakes? Let’s count the pennies we need to buy the balloon!), and problem solving (Oh no! How can we help?)



‘CRAFT’ A PLAY

You can make what you saw on stage today. After our shows in schools, the *Creative Tools for Teaching* ensemble visits Pre-K and Kindergarten classrooms to help classes craft some of the sets, props, and costumes, so they can play, too. Using **both readily available and recycled materials**, we invite audiences to “play the play” at home or in the classroom. Sing songs, make puppets, build forts, and use your imagination to bring these classic stories to life.

GETTING HURT

Getting hurt can be a scary experience for some kids. *Here We Go, Team!* shows that it doesn’t have to be so bad. The adults in our lives (like doctors, teachers, and coaches) are there to make us feel better and stay healthy, not to hurt us! Accidents happen, but they aren’t the end of the world. Explore activities you can do with your children and students to help reinforce the idea that getting hurt isn’t so scary – especially if you’re prepared for any possible scenario.



MAKE YOUR OWN FIRST AID KIT!

Here's a quick way to decorate a clean, recycled box for your first-aid items.

Materials:

- An empty shoe box or similar box with lid
- Scissors
- Construction paper
- Markers
- Glue Stick
- First Aid supplies like Band-Aids, gauze, thermometer, etc



Instructions:

1. Using your scissors, cut construction paper to cover a box with a lid
2. Attach the paper with a your glue stick
3. Decorate your box using the markers! You can draw and color large bandages and other first aid symbols – or whatever you'd like!
4. Write important phone numbers and safety reminders inside the lid
5. With the help of an adult, collect first aid items you may already have at home and place them in your first aid kit
6. Find a place to keep your first aid kit. This might be in your bathroom, your playroom, the car, your soccer bag, etc.

For more information, visit: <https://www.crayola.com/crafts/family-firstaid-kit-craft/>

MAKE A DOCTOR KIT

Materials:

- Black, white, and red construction paper
- Scissors, Glue and Tape
- Q-tips, large craft stick, Band-Aids, a cotton ball, gauze bandage and other 'medical' supplies you might have around {that are safe for preschoolers}



Instructions:

1. From the black construction paper, cut out a rectangle for the doctor's bag as well as two handles. Fold the black rectangle in half to make the bag. Glue the handles onto the bag.
2. Cut out 2 thin rectangles from the red construction paper & glue together to make a 'red cross'
3. Cut out a white circle and glue your 'red cross' on. Glue the circle and cross onto your bag.
4. Open the bag and glue/tape all of your medical supplies into the bag. Then fold the bag closed.



For more information, visit: <https://www.homeschoolcreations.net/preschool-corner-all-about-letter-dd/>

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GET UP AND MOVE!

Physical activity is vital for a child's development and lays the foundation for a healthy and active life. Early childhood services are ideally placed to foster the development of good physical activity habits early in life and to encourage families to engage in regular physical activity. Some of the benefits of being active for young children include: promoting healthy growth and development; helping to achieve and maintain a healthy weight; building strong bones and muscles; improving balance, coordination, and strength; developing flexibility; assisting with the development of gross motor and fine motor skills; improving sleep and concentration; relieving stress; and much more!

Activities for Preschoolers that like to MOVE!

- The Floor is Lava
- Paper Plate Skating
- A Flashlight Scavenger Hunt
- Target Practice (throw bean bags at a target)
- Jumping Game
- Frisbee Toss
- Sidewalk Chalk Games and/or Maze
- Water Balloon Toss (outdoor fun)



For more activities and links on how to play some of these games, visit:

<https://handsonaswegrow.com/gross-motor-activities-preschoolers/>

LOOSE TOOTH COUNTING GAME!

Teach basic counting principles with this simple game.

Materials:

- Pink construction paper
- One die
- Muffin tins or small cups
- Marshmallows
- Black Marker



Directions:

1. Cut the construction paper to look like an open mouth (see picture). Draw circles to represent teeth.
2. Have kids place one marshmallow on each circle
3. Each player takes a turn rolling the die. Whatever number they roll is how many marshmallows (teeth) they remove. Have them count out the marshmallows and return them to the tin. Then count how many marshmallows are left.
4. Whichever player removes (loses) their teeth the fastest wins!

For more information, visit: <http://www.toddlerapproved.com/2014/02/race-to-lose-tooth-counting-game.html?m=1>

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TIPS FROM THE CREATIVE TOOLS FOR TEACHING TEAM

Don't forget to decorate! Your materials can always use some child design — let their imaginations run wild as they transform plain boxes, socks, and household items into theatre.

Always keep your toolbox nearby: a shoebox of crayons, markers, safe scissors, bits of cloth, yarn, paper rolls, egg cartons, etc. Your Picasso will thank you.

Everybody plays! Don't forget to play with your children and students — bring out your inner artist and 'inner child' and your real children will play better. You are their imagination role models. Just let your child be the expert — support their ideas and help make them work.

Keep it simple! The point is to play together, have fun, and not try too hard. Look for when it is time to stop — and put the theatre 'props' away for the next time. You are making your own toys.

Collect raw materials: old socks, clean paper plates or cups, cardboard, bits of packing materials, yarn or ribbon from birthday parties — these all enrich your artist's palette.

Crafting is a fun 'waiting' activity! Set your artist up with a goal, and time will pass more quickly. Remember to leave time for clean-up. (Do you have a clean-up song? You should!)

Make the show come to life! This show is about hospital and, while the students can play in the centers at school, they can also play at home. Create a family first aid kit, have a helper with younger siblings, and make healthy meals together.



SMITHSONIAN CONNECTION

While you're in DC, visit the National History Museum to explore *Wegmans Wonderplace*. *Wegmans Wonderplace* is the first exhibition on the National Mall designed for children 0 to 6. This 1,700-square-foot interactive space provides the youngest historians with age-appropriate activities and experiences.



RELATED RESOURCES

Find Smithsonian classroom resources here:

<https://www.si.edu/educators>

Find more activities related to the doctor theme here:

<http://www.123child.com/lessonplans/selfconcept/doctors.php>

And here:

<http://www.makinglearningfun.com/themepages/DoctorPrintables.htm>

Find guides for crafts, discussion, songs, and other activities that explore ambulances and other emergency services here:

<http://www.preschool-plan-it.com/community-helpers-ambulance.html>

Check out your local Parks & Rec website for activities, walks, classes, etc to keep your family moving!

Washington, DC – www.dpr.dc.gov PG County – www.pg parks.com Arlington – www.parks.arlingtonva.us
Montgomery Co. - www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec Fairfax Co. - www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks

The mission of the Smithsonian Institution is “The increase and diffusion of knowledge.”

Smithsonian Associates advances the Institution’s mission through life-enriching educational and cultural experiences inspired by the Smithsonian’s research and collections for DC-region students, families, and adults, and for learning communities nationwide.

Discovery Theater has been presenting DC-area children with live educational performances for more than 30 years. With programs that enrich the Smithsonian experience for nearly 50,000 children annually, Discovery Theater is a gateway to the exhibits, collections, and themes contained in the museums and galleries on the National Mall and beyond. We explore American history and cultures, folk tales from around the world, and exciting, accessible science and math programs in the company of puppeteers, storytellers, dancers, actors, and musicians. Discovery Theater performances unite ideologies, enact themes that reflect the diversity of its audiences, open avenues of self-reflection, and offer an enjoyable means for parents and teachers to demonstrate life’s lessons. There’s so much to do and explore at the Smithsonian—and Discovery Theater is the ideal place to begin!



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