



If You Take a  
Mouse to the Movies  
Activity Day





IF YOU TAKE A  
MOUSE TO THE MOVIES  
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Objective:

1. To improve reading comprehension
2. To become aware of the setting of a story
3. To become aware of the main character of the story
4. To increase the student's vocabulary
5. To develop prediction skills



Methods:

Introduce the story by showing the children the cover. Ask the children what they think will happen. Begin reading the story. Ask the children about the main characters of the mouse and the little boy. Have the children describe what those 2 characters are like. Have the children tell you what they think the mouse is like based upon how he has acted in the story. Have them describe what the boy is like based upon what they have read in the story. Ask them about the setting as well. Have the children predict what will happen next based upon what we have read. Be sure to focus on new vocabulary words as you read. Also check comprehension through questioning as you read. Once you are finished, discuss the story. Then complete the character worksheet as well. Have the children draw a picture of their favorite character (the boy or the mouse) and then describe what that character is like. Once that is done, complete the setting worksheet

together. On the setting page, the children will need to draw a picture of the setting then tell of several events that happened in the story. Once both pages are finished, move on to the center activities.



### Activities:

#### Center 1: Spelling Puzzles

Have the children complete several of the spelling activities using the words from the story.

Vocabulary from the story:

mouse, movie, popcorn, string, Christmas Tree, snowman, fort, snowball, couch, blanket, radio, ornament, glitter, paper, hang, holiday, sing, ball, curl, cozy

#### Center 2: Interview with a Mouse

Have one child pretend he is the mouse. Have the other child pretend that he is a news reporter. Have the reporter interview the mouse. Sample questions will be provided. If possible, allow the children to video tape the interview.

#### Center 3: Daily Mouse Times

Using the blank newspaper page, make up your own newspaper article based upon the book. Include pictures and details.

#### Center 4: Movie Fun Times

Using the teacher made movie page, have the children create their own movie titles and a brief synopsis of each movie. Include a picture as well as show times. Be sure to include a sample movie.

Center 5: Rhyming Madness

Have the children cut out the words found on the movie tickets. They then need to glue them to the appropriate filmstrip. (rhyming words: ball/sing)

Center 6: The Addition Film Fest

Solve the addition problems found on the movie tickets. If the answer is 12, glue it to the filmstrip marked 12. If the answer is 16, glue it to the filmstrip marked 16.

Center 6: Multiplication Film Fest

Solve the multiplication problems found on the movie tickets. If the answer is between 0 and 40, glue it to the filmstrip marked 0 to 40. If the answer is between 41 and 81, glue it the filmstrip marked 41 to 81.

Center 7: Decorate a Tree

Using the blank Christmas tree, have the children decorate their own Christmas tree.

Center 8: The Letter M and N sound

Give the children 2 blank filmstrip patterns. Also give them blank movie tickets as well. Then have them draw as many words beginning with the M sound that they can think of on each ticket. Allow them to write the words on the tickets as well. Color, cut-out, then paste onto the M filmstrip. Then have them draw as many words beginning with the N sound that they can think of on ticket. Allow them to write on the tickets

as well. Color, cut-out, then paste onto the N filmstrip.

Center 9: The Mouse Mobile

Have the children color each piece of the mouse mobile. Then cut out each piece. Put together to form a hanging mobile.

Center 10: Mouse Puzzler

Using [www.Puzzlemaker.com](http://www.Puzzlemaker.com), create several puzzles using key vocabulary words.

mouse, movie, popcorn, string, Christmas Tree, snowman, fort, snowball, couch, blanket, radio, ornament, glitter, paper, hang, holiday, sing, bell, curl, cozy

Center 11: If You Take a Mouse Picture Completion

Have the children draw a picture to go with the phrase from the story.

Center 12: Make a Mouse Movie

Using the filmstrip project outline, have the children create their own movie based upon the characters in the story they read



Center 13: If You Take a Mouse to The Movies Questions & Answers

Have the children answer the questions about the story. Be sure they use complete sentences and details from the story.

Center 14: Cut and Paste Sequencing

Have the children read the 12 events from the story. They must then cut them out and paste them in the correct sequence based upon what happened in the story.

Center 15: Mouse Exam

Have the children complete the short quiz based upon the story they read. The quiz will consist of fill in the blank, multiple choice, true and false, and short answer.

Center 16: Make an Ornament

Have the children make a paper ornament like mouse did in the story. The ornaments they may make are a Christmas Tree, Santa, or a reindeer.

Center 17: Pop goes the Popcorn

Using the popcorn popper pattern, have the children go through the steps of making popcorn. Be sure they use complete sentences.

Center 18: A Snowman's Tale

Have the children make up a story about the mouse based upon what the snowman saw while the mouse and the boy played outside. This activity is excellent for demonstrating perspectives.

Center 19: Mouse Puzzlers

Have the children color the pictures from the story. They must then cut the pictures up to form puzzles. Place the puzzles in baggies and try to solve them later.

Center 20: Reaction to Day Before Christmas Poem

Have the children write a reaction to the poem, Day Before Christmas by Marchetta Chute.

Center 21: Make a Holiday book

Using the emergent readers books (December is Time to Celebrate and Sledding Song), have the children pair up and read a story to each other. They must then color the stories, cut them out and make their own books.

Center 22: Shooting Star Tree Ornaments

Cut out a circle starting at the edge and spiraling to the center of the circle. Decorate it with glitter. Cut out a small star. Put a tiny hole in the top of the star. Attach the star to the center of the spiral paper. It will look like a shooting star.

Center 23: Readers Responses

Give the children a choice of which response they would like to complete for the story. The choices include Character Sketch, Retelling, Writing Dialog (of the 2 main characters), Webs Make News, People are Talking Character Sketch, and a Book Report.

## Center 24: Popcorn Fun

Have the children pop some popcorn. For the really creative, see if they can string it.



### Materials:



Popcorn



Salt



Butter



Popcorn popper



Glue



Scissors



Crayons



Baggies



Glitter



String



Thread



Needle



Any other materials needed are mentioned in the various center activities.



Evaluation: Participation and products from each center.