



Educational Guide



Peek Into the Magical World of Happy Hollow!

Bring wonderment on the Happy Hollow as children grow from curious infants to independent toddlers to inquisitive preschoolers. The Happy Hollow provides a safe play environment that doubles as a learning environment for solo or group play. The charastically natural elements in this guide foster the seeds for learning. Get acquainted with all of the critters and components of Happy Hollow and what children will gain from them!



Shelly the Snail Drum

- Pattern recognition with the swirls in the shell
- Musical and auditory stimulation

Carl the Caterpillar

- Kinesthetic stimulation from moving the rings
- Auditory as the rings clink together
- Beginning of color recognition skills

Inclined Leaves

- Gross motor skills and balance to stay on the leaf
- Animal recognition of critters undeneath

Bertie the Bluebird

- Fine motor skills to turn the hand crank
- Puppet can be used for Dramtic Play

Mailbox

- Fine motor skills to slip items through the slot
- Fine motor skills to move the levers
- Audio recognition encouraged chimes



Lily Lady Bug Spinner

- Fine motor skills to grip and rotates
- Auditory sensory stimulations



Bella the Butterfly

- Fine motor skills to grip the pegs
- Pattern recognition with the pattern on the wings
- Problem solving skills when moving pegs



Ferah the Firefly

- Fine motor skill to turn its bulb
- Auditory stimulation from the rattling of beads
- Visual stimulation for the falling of beads



Marty the Sensory Mushroom

- Gross motor skills and balance to step upon it
- Sensory stimulation from the different textures

Benefits of Happy Hollow Include:



Sensory Play and Development



Social Development and Peer Connection



Audio, Visual, and Kinesthetic Sensory Play



Motor Skill Development

STEAM Activities

Get the most out of Happy Hollow. We've gathered together a few activities to get you started. These activities will encourage children to learn in new ways and to work together. There are many different applications inspired by the unit.



Science

The nature laden theme of the structure lends itself well to science focused experiments.

- Plant a Box Garden
- Grow Beans in a Paper Towel
- Life of a Plant: From Seed to Seed
- Match the Animal to the Biome
- Finish the Food Chain
- Insect Investigation



Technology

Technology is evident in the very ramps and slides that the children will slide up and down on.

- Make your own binoculars
- Water Magnifying Glass
- Roll objects down the structure's leaves



Engineering

Creating something new is the basis of engineering. Take a step back and show how nature laid the groundwork for building.

- Create animal homes
- Make your own rattle
- Bridge building



Arts

Art allows for individual development, personality and emotional development.

- Textured Art
- Do leaf and bark rubbings
- Create a picture by gluing down seeds
- Create stories using the structure's critters



Mathematics

Counting is a great first step towards later math understanding.

- Measuring the size of sticks
- Leaf sorting
- Seed counting
- Counting Carl the Caterpillar's rungs



Pre-Literacy Suggested Reading

Pre-literacy is an important step in a child's development towards, not only reading, but awareness of cultures, themes, emotions, roleplaying and a host of other benefits. The structure lends itself especially well to a focus on nature themes, roleplaying and cultural differences with its fantasy-inspired interior. Each item connects to a piece of literature that helps them grow.

- Stickman by Julia Donaldson
- The Gingerbread Man by Eric Kimmel
- I'm a Little Teapot retold by Iza Trapani
- Fancy Nancy: Tea Parties
- Fairy Mom and Me by Sophie Kinsella
- Planting a Rainbow by Lois Ehlert
- Room on the Broom by Julia Donaldson
- The Night Pirates by Peter Harris
- Flat Stanley by Jeff Brown
- The Grouchy Ladybug by Eric Carle
- Winnie's Magic Wand by Valerie Thomas
- Winnie the Witch by Valerie Thomas
- There's a Bear on My Chair
- Green Eggs and Ham by Dr. Seuss

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- How to Catch a Star by Oliver Jeffers
 - The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle
 - The Grouchy Ladybug by Eric Carle
 - Butterfly Butterfly: A Book of Colors by Petr Horaceh
 - The Very Lonely Firefly
 - Bluebird by Bob Staake
 - Mushroom in the Rain by Mirra Ginsburg
 - A Color of His Own by Leo Lionni
 - The Greedy Python by Richard Buckley
 - Turtle Splash! By Cathryn Falwell
 - The Life and Times of the Ant by Charles Micucci
 - Frog and Toad by Arnold Lobel
 - Mailbox The Giant Hug by Sandra Horning
 - Shell Escargot by Dashka Slater

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| • Three Little Pigs | • Jack and the Beanstalk Activities | • Snow White |
| • Cinderella | • 3 Billy Goats Gruff | • The Little Red Hen |
| • Hansel and Gretel | • Little Red Riding Hood | • Goldilocks and the Three Bears |