Picnic Time

Read

- *It’s the bear!* by Jez Alborough, Candlewick Press, 1996.
- *Once upon a picnic*, by John Prater, illustrated by John Prater, Candlewick, 1996.
- *Pizza at Sally’s*, by Monica Wellington, Dutton, 2006.
- *We’re going on a picnic!* by Pat Hutchins, Greenwillow, 2002.

By Julie Moore
Music

Crafts (all crafts best for ages 2-5)
- Paper Bag Picnic Basket: [www.sinc.sunysb.edu/Class/est572/mdepuy/june.htm](http://www.sinc.sunysb.edu/Class/est572/mdepuy/june.htm)

Sing-a-longs
- **Here We Go on a Picnic**, to the tune “Mulberry Bush,” **Ages 0-5**
  (Source: [www.preschooleducation.com](http://www.preschooleducation.com))

  Here we go on a picnic today,
  A picnic today, a picnic today.
  Here we go on a picnic today,
  On such a beautiful __________________(day of the week)

  This is the way we spread our cloth,
  Spread our cloth, spread our cloth.
  This is the way we spread our cloth,
  On such a beautiful ________________.

  This is the way we eat our lunch...
  This is the way we play our games...
  This is the way we clean it up...
  After a delightful picnic.

  We had fun on a picnic today,
  Picnic today, picnic today.
  We had fun on a picnic today,
  On such a beautiful ____________.
Michigan Reads! 2008

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- **Ants at the Picnic**, to the tune “Skip to My Lou,” **Ages 0-5**
  (Source: www.preschooleducation.com)

  Ants at the picnic, what'll I do?
  Ants at the picnic, what'll I do?
  Ants at the picnic, what'll I do?
  Guess I'll eat real quickly!

  *Try your own verses! Like, “Raccoons in the trashcan…”*

- **Picnic in the Park**, to the tune “She’ll Be Coming Around the Mountain,” **Ages 0-5**
  (Source: www.preschooleducation.com)

  Yes, we'll all go on
  A picnic in the park.
  Yes, we'll all go on
  A picnic in the park.
  Bring some lunch
  And bring a ball.
  There will be
  Such fun for all!
  Yes, we'll all go on
  A picnic in the park.

- **All Around the Garbage Can**, to the tune: “Pop Goes the Weasel!” **Ages 0-5**
  (Source: Phyllis Thode, Julie Moore, text from “Raccoon Tune”)

  All around the garbage can
  The raccoons tip it over
  They want some yummy food to eat
  Pop! Goes the trashcan.

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This lid is on a little tight.  
We’ll have to put up quite a fight.  
We pull and pull with all our might.  
Pop! Goes the trashcan.

What’s inside for us to eat?  
We really want some tasty treats!  
Banana peels and bright red beets.  
Pop! Goes the trashcan.

Activities
  • Trashcan Treasure Hunt, Ages 2-8
    o Set out trashcans around the library and fill them with an assortment of “food” (either paper cut-outs or plastic food)
    o Have children dress as raccoons (see masks/ tails in crafts section)
    o Little “raccoons” have to try to find healthy “meals” from the trash!
    o Ages 2-4: Keep the theme on healthy vs. not healthy treats for people
    o Ages 5 and up: You can first learn about what raccoons eat both in the wild and closer to people. Have them search for food that raccoons would/should eat.
  • Feed the Raccoons, Ages 2-8
    o Have some raccoons available (stuffed, puppets, or pictures from the “Raccoons!” program above)
    o Have healthy raccoon food available (plastic or paper)
    o Have children distribute the food to the raccoons so that all the raccoons have the same amount to eat!
      ▪ You could use fish as the food in keeping with the “Raccoon Tune” text
    o Ages 2-4: Use one fish per raccoon
    o Ages 5 and up: To make this more difficult for older children, increase the number of fish (15 fish: 5 raccoons)

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- Have a Picnic After the Program! All Ages!

Print-outs
- Picnic Table: http://familycrafts.about.com/library/color/blcolpicnictabl.htm
- Picnic Ant Maze: www.npl.lib.va.us/bibl/animals/activities/picnic_maze.html
- Picnic Crossword: www.npl.lib.va.us/bibl/animals/activities/cross_word.html

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