Gettin' the Goods on Good Pizza!

An Economics Lesson for Kindergarten Using the Picture Book, *The Little Red Hen (Makes a Pizza)*
Retold by Philemon Sturges, Illustrated by Amy Walrod

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2014 3M Innovative Economic Educator Award winner

Elementary, 1st Place
**Lesson Innovation:**

To the best of my knowledge, this is an original lesson plan developed and created on my own. While researching economic concepts and children's literature I was able to find lessons using the original fable of The Little Red Hen and linking it to the concepts of scarcity and/or natural resources. I also found lessons at the elementary level about goods and services, but I did not uncover any lesson material using this particular title and the concepts of goods and services for kindergarten students. I created this lesson based upon my own experience and knowledge of working with kindergarten students and their unique abilities, keeping in mind their developmental capacity for understanding and connecting abstract concepts.

As a reading specialist, I work with struggling readers in grades K-3. I see students in small groups of three to five students, in a pull-out model, in a small instructional space. I do not have access to an I-board. I see my kindergarten group three times a week for 20 minutes each time. This economics lesson is designed for my specific set of teaching circumstances, but could easily be adapted to a whole class setting if need be.

My lesson activity, "Tap, Tap, Clap, Clap", is an adaptation of a familiar classroom response activity called "Clap, Clap, Stomp, Stomp", which I also saw mentioned on the site www.kidseconposters.com and my activity "Pass the Pizza" is an adaptation I created from the game "Pass the Pom-Pom" which was given to our class at the follow-up workshop day on October 26, 2013. Other than those two ideas used as inspiration, the lesson plan is my own.

Pictures that I used are photocopied from the book *Little Red Hen Makes a Pizza* by Philemon Sturges and *At the Supermarket* by Anne Rockwell and from free clip art sources through Google Search.
Lesson Overview:

In this economics lesson for kindergarten, I am using the book *The Little Red Hen (Makes a Pizza)* retold by Philomen Sturges, to exemplify the economic concepts of goods and services. It is designed to be taught in 2, twenty minute sessions, depending upon the time needed for additional group discussion or time needed to complete activities. This could vary from group to group. This classic fable is retold with a modern twist and my first impression as I read it was that the concepts of goods and services seemed to jump out at me more so than the natural and raw resources concepts as they appear in the original story where the little red hen must gather wheat and grind it to make her own flour. This new version emphasizes the goods that must be purchased from stores and just seems like a natural link to teach these concepts to kindergarteners.

The story line is familiar enough to kindergarteners that they will be able to recognize the main characters and make a connection to the original fable. The book has bright, eye-catching illustrations and the text length is appropriate for reading and rereading to five and six year olds. Students can relate to the making and eating of pizza and the story easily can translate to a Readers Theatre format if desired.

My school, Wilshire Park Elementary, is in St. Anthony, a small suburb located just north of Minneapolis, west of Roseville, and south of New Brighton. Our district (St. Anthony-New Brighton) is small, with just one elementary school (K-5), one middle school and one high school. Total district enrollment for 2013-14 is 1770. Our K-5 enrollment is 689 students. Student families are primarily residential and predominantly white (71%) and middle class. We have approximately 11% black, 10% Asian and 6% Hispanic and 21% who qualify for the Free or Reduced Lunch program.
Lesson Description:

This lesson was written to introduce and teach kindergarten students the economic concepts of goods and services. I am using a popular children's fable retold in a modern way, *The Little Red Hen (Makes a Pizza)*. It tells the story of the Little Red Hen and how she goes about procuring the goods that she needs to make a pizza and the services that she utilizes to get them. The story also demonstrates the services that the Little Red Hen herself employs in the making of the pizza and finally, the services that her friends, Cat, Dog and Duck provide to help her.

My lesson uses a variety of activities to help keep kindergarteners engaged and pictures from the book to use as examples of goods and services. This is entirely a small group lesson because I work with small groups of students but could be adapted to use with a whole class. Students will listen to the story, take part in group discussions, participate in group activities to practice their emerging understanding of the concepts and finally, complete a post-assessment to demonstrate their knowledge of the concepts being presented.

**Grade Level**: Kindergarten

**Time Required**: Two, 20-30 minute sessions.

**Essential Questions**:

- What are goods?
- What are services?

**MN. Economic Content Standard**:

0.2.3.5 Individuals, businesses and governments interact and exchange goods, services and resources in different ways and for different reasons; interactions between buyers and sellers in a market determines the price and quantity exchanged of a good, service or resource.
**Benchmark:**

0.2.3.5.1 Distinguish between goods (objects that can be seen or touched) and services (actions or activities).

**MN. English Language Arts Standards.**

Reading Benchmarks: Literature K-5:

0.1.1.1 With prompting and support, ask and answer questions about key details in a text.

0.1.3.3 With prompting and support, identify characters, settings and major events in a story.

0.1.7.7 With prompting and support, describe the relationship between illustrations and the story in which they appear.

Speaking, Viewing, Listening and Media Literacy Benchmarks K-5:

0.8.1.1 Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about kindergarten topics and texts with peers and adults in small and larger groups.

0.8.2.2 Confirm understanding of a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media by asking and answering questions about key details and requesting clarification if something is not understood.

0.10.4.4 Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on kindergarten reading and content.

**Economic Concept:**

People (and even little red hens) consume goods and services to satisfy their needs and wants. Goods are physical objects we can hold or touch. Services are actions provided for people.

**Learning Objectives/Outcomes:**

Students will be able to define goods as objects that can be seen or touched.

Students will be able to define services as actions that someone does for someone else.
Students will be able to identify goods and services in the story *The Little Red Hen Makes a Pizza*.

Students will be able to give examples of goods in their home, school or community.

Students will be able to give examples of services in their home, school or community.

Students will be able to differentiate and classify pictures of goods and services.

**Materials:**

The book *The Little Red Hen (Makes a Pizza)* retold by Philomen Sturges.

Copies of the pre and post-assessment - one per student. (Document #1)

1 Pizza delivery box or a large cut out picture of a pizza.

8-12 Premade paper pepperoni slices with examples of goods or services on each. (Doc. #2)

1 small bowl or dish to hold pepperoni pieces.

A whiteboard or chart paper and colored markers with 2 different colored markers.

Photo-copied pictures from the book and other sources of goods and services. (Document #3)

You could also use cut out pictures from magazines.

**Lesson Procedure: (Day 1)**

1. **Introduction:** Hold up an empty pizza box (or a large cut-out picture of a pizza). Activate the students prior knowledge by asking questions.

   What is this?

   Do you like pizza?

   Do your friends like it?

   Have you ever made pizza at home?

   What do you think you need to make pizza?
Do a picture walk of the book (without reading, show the pictures in the book and talk about what they think is going on in the story) and ask students if they can make any connections to any other stories that might be similar to this one (The Little Red Hen fables).

2. **Pretest:** Tell the students that before you read the story "I want to find out what you know about two vocabulary words that we are going to talk about after the story."

Pass out the pretest (Document #1) and read the two questions and answer choices aloud. Ask them to circle their answer. Finally, explain the two drawings at the bottom and ask them to draw a line from the picture to either the word Good or Service.

Collect the pretests and set them aside to score and save for later comparison to the post-test.

3. **Define economic concepts of the lesson:** At this point, before you read the story, tell the students that in this book, we are going to hear about Goods and Services. Goods are objects that we can hold or touch. Services are actions that a person does for someone else.

4. **Set the Purpose for Reading and Listening.** Ask the students to listen to the story while you read, look at the pictures and be thinking of what might be a Good in this story (something you can hold or touch) and what might be a Service (something that someone does for someone else).

5. **Read the book** *The Little Red Hen (Makes a Pizza)* aloud to the students.

Have students retell and summarize the story to give the main idea and some of the supporting details.

6. **Restate Definition of Goods and Services.**

Tell students that in the story the Little Red Hen needed many items to make her pizza. These things are called "Goods" and are all the things that you can touch or hold in your hands.

Have students name some of the items from the story that are Goods: (pizza pan, bowl, pizza slicer, flour, salt, oil, mozzarella, pepperoni, olives, tomato sauce, etc.)

Tell students that in the story the Little Red Hen also had to go and buy some items from people. These are "Services" and are what someone does for someone else.

Have students name some of the Services from the story: (hardware store, grocery store, delicatessen, washing dishes, ice cream truck, etc.)

7. **Classify Goods and Services** (activity using the whiteboard and cut-out pictures).
Use whiteboard or chart paper to write Goods and Services across the top divided by a line down the middle to make two columns. Hold up cut-out pictures of items representing both Goods and Services (Document #3) and ask students to take turns naming them and deciding if they should be taped up under Goods or Services. Students can take turns taping picture cards in appropriate columns.


Instruct students to "Tap, Tap" with their hands on their table when they hear a word that describes a Good and to "Clap, Clap" their hands when they hear a word that describes a Service. Use some of the same goods and services from the story that you've already talked about as examples of goods and services. You can also use the illustrations in the book for more ideas of goods and services.

Lesson Procedure: (Day 2)

1. Review the story by holding the book up and going through, page-by-page, as students retell what happened.

2. Restate the definitions of Goods and Services as a reminder to students.

Goods are things you can touch or hold. Services are what someone does for someone else.

Discussion: Ask students to name some of the goods and services that we were in the story that had been talked about in the previous lesson (see Day 1 lesson, step #6).


Materials: Empty cardboard pizza box or a paper replica of a pizza. Paper "pepperoni" slices that you have previously made to resemble pepperoni with either a picture or words that exemplify goods and services. (Document #2) A bowl or dish to put the pepperoni slices in.

Explain to students that in this game we are going to pass around a pizza box while singing a little song. When the song stops the person holding the pizza box, takes a "pepperoni" from a bowl in the middle and has to name it and say if it is a Good or a Service.

Students stand in circle with bowl of pepperoni in the middle. One person starts passing the pizza box from person to person as the kids sing this song:

When the song stops, the person holding the box must pick a piece of pepperoni from the bowl, name the picture on it (or if you choose to just write words, have the teacher read it) and then the student must decide if it is a Good or Service. If they are correct, it goes into the pizza box (or gets taped onto the pretend paper pizza if that's what you are using) and the game continues until all of the pepperoni pieces are gone. If the student is incorrect, the piece goes back into the bowl in the middle.


Lead students in a discussion of goods and services in their homes, school and community.

Ask students to give examples of other goods that they can think of at home, school or in the community. (shoes, books, tables, chairs, pencils, jackets, etc.)

Ask students to give examples of other services that they can think of at home, school or their community. (doctor, dentist, vet, barber, painters, electricians, plumber, babysitter, etc.)

5. Post-Test/Assessment.

Distribute the post-test papers (same as the pretest Document #1).

Read the questions and answer choices to students and instruct them to circle the answer that they believe is correct. Collect the post-tests to score and compare to their pre-tests.

**Evaluation:**

My small, pull-out groups of kindergarteners were very engaged with the two lessons. They especially liked the game Pass the Pizza on Day 2. Because of my time constraints with meeting with my reading groups, we had to keep each activity very short to fit it all in. The students would have enjoyed continuing the amount of time spent on the activities and discussions. In a classroom situation, the teacher could have more flexibility to increase the time spent on each lesson component depending upon the engagement of the class. With kindergartens, I find that it is generally appropriate to keep the learning activities short and fast-paced because of their attention spans.

This economics lesson was done with 2 groups of kindergarteners, for a total of 8 students, 4 in each group.
On the pretest 0% got 100% correct.

On the post-test 100% (8/8) got 100% correct.

All questions and answer choices were read aloud to the students.

**Extension activities:**

1. Read related books and have students name goods and services in these versions.
   
   The Little Red Hen and the Little Yellow Chicken by Joy Cowley
   
   The Little Red Hen by Paul Galdone
   
   The Little Red Hen by Diane Muldrow
   
   The Little Red Hen by Jerry Pinkney
   
   The Little Red Hen by Harriet Ziefert

2. Go to www.scholastic.com/teachers/teaching-resources and search for Community Club: Meet a Pizza Maker, to listen and read along as a pizza maker explains his job.

3. Pizza Word Wall. Have students come up with goods and services related to pizza and pizza making and write them down for a Pizza Word Wall.


5. Set up a Pizza Shop as a kindergarten play center.

6. Make personal pizzas using a favorite recipe.

7. Writing activity: students dictate a story to their 4th or 5th grade buddies of how they would make a pizza and what goods and services they would use.

8. Art activity: have students paint or color a pizza with their favorite toppings.