

The Red Ripe Strawberry

What's Missing?

Look at this juicy red ripe strawberry.
Can you tell what's missing?

You're right.
It's not red
and there are
no seeds.



Use markers or paint
to make the berry red
and the leaves green.

Use a paint brush to brush
school glue on the strawberry
and sprinkle on whole mustard
seeds or sesame seeds.

Did you know? A strawberry has about
200 seeds. That's a lot of seeds!

What color are the seeds? Use a magnifying glass to
look at a real strawberry.



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A Good Book to Read

The Little Mouse, The Red Ripe Strawberry, and The Big Hungry Bear by Audrey and Don Wood

After you finish reading, act out the story. Who will tell the story? Who will pretend to be the mouse? Who will watch the show and clap at the end? What will you use for the strawberry?

Make A Giant Strawberry

Stack 2 sheets of newspaper or freezer wrap. Draw a very large strawberry shape without the leaves. Cut out both pieces and paint red.

After dry, put wrong sides together and staple close to the edge or glue leaving a six inch opening. (Clothespins or paper clips help hold the edges together while drying.)

Stuff with crumpled sheets of newspaper and close with staples or glue. Cut out pieces of construction paper for seeds and leaves and glue in place.

Hide it from the bear.



Strawberry Smoothie

- 3 cups fresh or whole unsweetened frozen strawberries
- 1 1/2 cups low-fat vanilla yogurt
- 1 1/4 cups 1% milk
- 2 Tablespoons dry milk powder
- 2 Tablespoons strawberry jam
- 2 Tablespoons sugar

Blend in blender or smoothie maker. Serves 6.



Credit as one fruit (1/2 C.) and meat alternate (1/2 oz.) serving at snack for 1-5 year olds.

Strawberry Scented Play-Doh

- 5 cups flour
- 4 packages strawberry unsweetened soft drink mix (Kool-Aid)
- 1 cup salt
- 6 Tablespoons vegetable oil
- 4 cups boiling water

Mix all dry ingredients together. Add oil and boiling water. Stir until well mixed. Knead when cool enough. Store in an airtight container. This makes a nice large batch.

If you want a brighter red, add a few drops of red food color to the water. Kids love to help make it. It smells so good!!

Fine Motor Development

Show kids how to roll, push, flatten, coil, and twist the play-doh with their hands. Use cookie cutters and rolling pins for occasional play.

When children play with play-doh, they are strengthening the muscles in their hands. This is preparing them for school so they can hold a pencil or crayon. Occupational therapists give their patients "therapy putty" to build the muscles in their hands.

Play-doh is also calming and relaxing. Use it when the kids have extra energy.

Let's Go Berry Picking

Cut out lots of red berry shapes from red construction paper. The older kids can help cut them out. Add green stems and leaves if you want. Sprinkle them in the grass outside. Give the kids pails and ask them to pick some berries for you. This is great exercise. Let the kids use the paper berries in the play area.

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