Book activities

At school we read many books. The children have many favorite books that we tend to read more than others. Here are some of the books we read and some activities you could do with the books.

1. ***Click Clack Moo* by Doreen Cronin**: this is a book about cows who find a typewriter and begin writing letters to the farmer demanding different items. Some activities you could do with this book are: write a letter/talk about what you would ask for if you were the cows, draw pictures of the characters in the story (cows, farmer, chickens, duck) and act the story out, or make a cow mask (a paper plate works well for a mask) and pretend to be the cows in the story.
2. ***The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle**: this book is about a caterpillar who eats many different foods then he turns into a butterfly. You could make a caterpillar out of your fingerprints or circles, you could talk about what you would eat if you were a caterpillar, or talk about the life cycle of a butterfly (you could even draw the life cycle of a butterfly if you want).
3. ***Pete the Cat I Love My White Shoes* by James Dean**: in this book Pete the Cat has a pair of white shoes. Pete walks into many different things that change his shoes colors. The great thing about Pete is he doesn’t complain about his shoes changing colors. He keeps walking along and singing his song. For this book you could draw a picture of what you would walk in with your white shoes and color it or you could get the shoes in your house and sort them into their colors.
4. ***Where The Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak**: this book is about a boy who is upset about things going on at school and home. He goes to the land of the wild things and becomes the wild things king. You could make a mask of what you would look like if you were a wild thing, you could talk about what you would do if you were king of the wild things, or you could talk about/draw what it looks like when you feel wild.
5. ***Green Eggs and Ham* by Dr. Seuss**: this book is about a creature named Sam-I-Am who tries to get another character to eat green eggs and ham. For this book you can make green eggs and ham for real (use food coloring to dye the eggs and ham green), you can make pretzel green eggs and ham (use pretzels, melt white chocolate into a circle/dot on top of the pretzel, and put a green MM on top), or you could get foods you have not tried and try them out.
6. ***The Day the Crayons Quit* by Drew Daywalt**: this book is about crayons who write letters to their owner saying they quit for different reasons. Some activities you could do are talk about what color crayon you would be and why you may quit doing your job (then talk about what it would be like without that crayon), you could use your own crayons to act out the book or make up your own story of why the crayons quit, or you could draw a picture using colors you may not expect that item to be (ex. Make the grass purple) because that is what happens at the end of the book.
7. ***Chicka Chicka Boom Boom* by Bill Martin**: is a book about letters that climb a coconut tree. You could make your own coconut tree by drawing or using construction paper then write the letters of your name in the tree, you could use plastic letters (or make paper ones) then sort them into what letters they are, or you could use the plastic letters to match uppercase and lowercase letters.
8. ***The Little Engine That Could* by Watty Piper**: is about a train who gets stuck and cannot get up the hill. Many engines come along and the stuck train asks them to help. Those engines do not help but eventually the little engine comes along and agrees to help. For this book you could make a train using different 3-D items (paper towel tubes, egg cartons, etc.), use old trains and roll their wheels in paint then roll them across the paper to make an art project, or you could talk about what you can do right now (just like the little engine that could did something that was hard but she could do it).
9. ***If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* by Laura Numeroff**: this book is about a mouse that gets a cookie from a boy. Then the mouse asks the boy for milk. The mouse keeps asking for different things from the boy after the boy gives him something else. For this book you could talk about what you would want if you were given a cookie then draw a picture that, you could talk about cause and effect by saying when the boy gave the mouse a cookie what did he ask for (you don’t need to use the words cause and effect because it may confuse your child), or you could draw a large cookie and write letters in the cookie as chocolate chips then say a letter and ask your child to find that letter.
10. ***The Kissing Hand* by Audrey Penn**: in this book a raccoon is beginning school but he is scared. His mom gives him a kiss on his hand and says that if he ever feels lonely he can put his hand on his cheek and he will not feel as alone. You could trace your child’s hand and draw/write something/someone you love in it, you could make your own raccoon mask or draw a picture of a raccoon, or you could make a paper bag puppet raccoon and reenact the story.
11. ***My Friend is Sad* by Mo Willems**: this book is about an elephant who is sad and his friend, Piggie tries to cheer him up. Some activities you could do are dress up in different costumes like piggie did, you could talk about what you would do to cheer up your friend if he/she was sad, or you could make an elephant and piggie mask and act out the story.