



The Kissing Hand

By Audrey Penn



This cute story is all about how Chester's mother is able to calm his nerves before his first day of school by leaving a special imprint on his hand.

Before:

Before you read, take some time to introduce the story to the children. Use the cover illustration to create a question to help gain the interest of the children. Using the words, "I wonder" is a great way to do so.

- "I wonder why the raccoon's mother is kissing his hand. Do you think he is hurt?"

During:

While you are reading, take the time to look at the illustrations and create more questions. Talk about why Chester does not want to go to school and what his mother does to help him. Point out any rare words and give definitions that the children will best understand.

Rare Words in *the Kissing Hand*

Edge: the outside limit of an object, area, or surface; a place or part farthest away from the center of something.

Nuzzle: rub or push against gently with the nose and mouth

Strange: unusual or surprising in a way that is unsettling or hard to understand.

Secret: not known or seen or not meant to be known or seen by others

Silk: thread or fabric made from the fiber produced by the silkworm.

After:

Discuss the story. Ask Questions...

- Where does Chester not want to go?
- Why does he want to stay home?
- What does his mom say to convince him to go to school?
- Why does the owl go to school at night?
- How do you say "I love you" with your hand?



I LOVE YOU

Let's Talk About *the Kissing Hand*

In this story Chester, the raccoon, is nervous to go to school but luckily his mom finds a way to get rid of his nerves. Are you/were you nervous for the first day of school? What is a good way to help keep you calm when you are nervous? Do you have a special saying or object that helps calm you down quickly?

The Kissing Hand

Create your own kissing hand!

Materials:

- Paint
- Paper/Cardstock
- Sponge
- Scissors

Instructions:

1. Dip your hand in your choice of colour paint and stamp it on your paper.
2. Use the scissors to cut the sponge into the shape of a heart and dip it into a different colour of paint.
3. Stamp the wet sponge onto the middle of your handprint.
4. You now have a kissing hand! Feel free to decorate around the kissing hand and make it more personal.



What's included in the kit ?

- Raccoon Song
- *Fall The Leaves* Song
- Handprint Clip Cards
- Hand Number Count
- Forest Colours
- Forest Picture Match Cards
- Animal Alphabet Cards

