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STOP BY AND SAY HI!



Olivia Helps with Christmas Book Activities

Get into the holiday spirit with the fun picture book, *Olivia Helps with Christmas* by Ian Falconer, and these three matching Christmas book activities.

Olivia Helps with Christmas Activity #1: No Sew Stocking Ornament

In the story, Olivia makes sure to hang the family's red stockings. For this activity you will make your own miniature, red stocking decorations to hang on your tree.

Supplies needed:

- Red and green crafting felt
- Scissors
- Glue gun and hot glue sticks

Directions:

1. Begin by cutting out two identical “sock” or “stocking” shapes from your red felt. You might like to use the stencil provided with our **Felt Christmas Stocking Craft** or just freehand it. Make sure the two pieces match.

2. Run a thin line of hot glue around the perimeter of one of the stockings, taking care to avoid the top.

3. Press the second felt stocking piece over the piece you've applied the glue to. Hold in place until secure.

4. Use the green felt to create a decorative band along the top of the stocking. Cut, glue, and press into shape.

5. Create a small strip from the felt and fold into a loop for hanging. Attach with hot glue.

Optional: Use glitter pens to decorate your stockings.

Your mini felt stocking is now ready to be displayed on your tree. You can even tuck mini treats inside if you wish!

Olivia Helps with Christmas Activity #2: Creating a Holiday Task List

Just like Olivia's family in the book, families often have lots of tasks to complete in preparation for the holidays. Teaching children to create a list of tasks to do encourages organization and problem solving. In this activity, children will create their own holiday to-do list.

Directions:

1. Begin by brainstorming the tasks a family might do to prepare for the holidays. These may be household tasks, as well as preparations for festive family traditions.

2. Start making a list of the kid friendly tasks from your brainstorm. Examples might include: shopping for gifts, wrapping presents, decorating the tree, baking cookies, hanging stockings, etc. This list could be made on a whiteboard, posterboard or a piece of paper.

3. Talk about why some tasks should be completed before others. Number the tasks in order of importance.

4. Invite children to make their own list of holiday related tasks to complete using our Holiday Task List Printable.



Olivia Helps with Christmas Book Activities

Olivia Helps with Christmas Activity #3: Comparing and Contrasting Pigs

In the story, Olivia is a fictional pig who acts like humans, and enjoys many of the things we do. In real life, pigs are very different to humans. In this activity you will compare and contrast Olivia's character with real pigs.

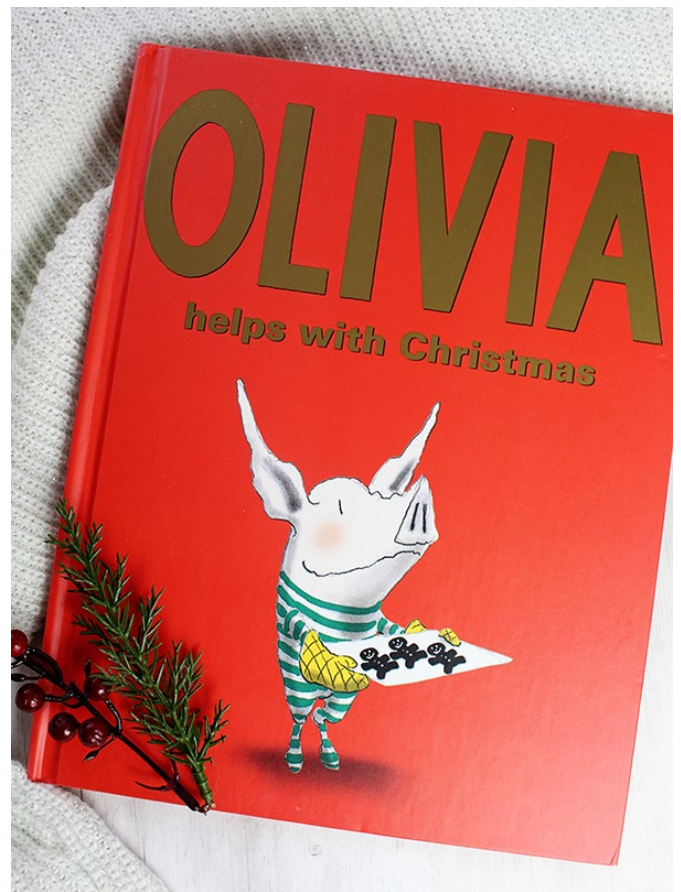
Directions:

1. Begin by brainstorming facts you know about real life pigs. You can write these facts down on a whiteboard, poster board or sheet of paper if you wish. Your facts might include that pigs are very smart, like to eat fruit as a treat, and roll in mud to stay cool.
2. Talk about what makes Olivia a fictional pig. For example: she wears clothing, walks upright, eats cookies, lives in a house.
3. Now you can compare and contrast real pigs with Olivia and her family members. How are they alike? How are they different? Introduce the idea of recording similarities and differences on a Venn diagram.

A Venn diagram is a method of recording logical relationships between two different sets, or groups of objects, that share some things in common.

Model recording the differences between Olivia and her family and real life pigs on each side of the Venn Diagram printable. Then record similarities between the two groups in the middle intersection of the two circles.

4. Invite children to record their own responses on their own copy of the printable Compare & Contrast Venn Diagram page.



MY HOLIDAY TASK LIST



COMPARE AND CONTRAST VENN DIAGRAM

