Theme Date
Print Motivation Share the book in this theme that is most fun to read! How can I share my enjoyment with children and adults? Choose books that are effective with groups- easy to read, engaging, & allow voice inflection.
Language and Vocabulary What interesting vocabulary do I want to highlight? Which pictures are big, clear, colorful and realistic—good to call attention to? How can I engage children and parents in music and movement? What questions with one-word answers ("yes", "no", "blue", "horse") can I ask to model involving the children in talking about the story?
Narrative Skills & Comprehension How can I model making predictions about the story? Ask a puppet? Ask another adult? Which story do I want to model and encourage children to retell later? Possibly with stuffed animals or puppets? How can I talk about the storyline and link it to what the children already know through conversation, questions, or activities?
Concepts about Print Which book has big print and a picture on the cover so I can read and point to the title, author and illustrator? Which one or two pages would be best for pointing to print and running my finger along while reading? Do I have a big book or poem on a chart to model left to right progression? How can the children participate in drawing, writing or creating something related to the theme?
Letter Recognition Which book will I use to point out an individual letter or letters? How can I draw attention to the first letter of the children's names?
Phonological Awareness or Sensitivity Which rhyming story, poem, finger play, song will I select? Which song or finger play will I introduce and then have the children do with me?

Parent Connection

How can I encourage parents to **link** the events of the stories and the characters to what the children already know? Which one of the concepts above can I **explain** simply to parents during the flow of the activities? Is there a **handout** related to this concept that I can share with parents?