



ARRIBA ABAJÓ LEARNING GUIDE



MONDAY, MOON

This song and accompanying activities gives children experience with the days of the week and how to read the days of the week using visual clues. Children engage kinesthetic learning by acting out different activities that can be done each day of the week.

CONCEPTS

- initial sounds
- days of the week
- reading strategies: how to use visual clues to read a word successfully



**STREAM OR
DOWNLOAD
THE SONG**

SEVEN DAYS IN A WEEK

Before introducing the song “Monday, Moon,” display a big calendar for children, with the days of the week printed on top with big letters.



STRATEGY

If you don't have a calendar with the days of the week in big letters and a clear font, you can always write them out on another piece of paper and glue the new words on top of a calendar you already have. Older children may not need you to do this, but for younger children this may be helpful.

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Explain that each week has seven days and every week starts with the same day and follow the same order. In some countries the week starts on Sunday and in other countries, the week starts on Monday, but every week has the same seven days.

Invite children to name the days out loud. While children say the names of the days, you point to the words. Now listen to the song "Monday, Moon" together, and then to sing the together, naming the days of the week several times.

Ask children to act out the phrases in the song. Below are some ideas, but encourage children to take the lead, be creative and come up with their own movements for each phrase.

Monday, moon

Tuesday, tune

Wednesday, whisper

Thursday, think

Friday, fly

Saturday, sing

and Sunday, where have you been?

Look at the moon

Pretend you are warming up your throat

Place your finger across your mouth, in the "shh" position

Take one hand close to your head and make a "thinking" face

Extend both arms to the side like an airplane

Sing loud

Shrug and lift your hands as if asking a question

Every morning I lay in my bed

The rays of sun tickling my head

Oh, what sweet company

The seven days of the week

Bend your head sideways and pretend to be sleeping

Tickle your head

Give yourself a hug

Lift up seven fingers

EXTEND

Make a routine of referring to your calendar each day. Each day, practice identifying the day of the week with your child by pointing at the word on the calendar, and work with your child to complete these sentence frames:

"Today is _____.
Yesterday was _____.
Tomorrow is _____."

Soon your child will be able to say the sentences on her own. You can also provide the opportunity for your child to write, either by writing only the day names (filling in the blanks) or, when she is ready, writing the complete sentences.

SUNDAY, WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?

After singing the song "Monday, Moon," introduce sentence strips, or large pieces of paper, with the days of the week clearly printed on them.

Point out the first letter of the word Monday. Say, "mmmmmmmonday, mmmmmmonday, mmmmonday... What sound do you hear at the beginning of mmmmmmonday? What letter do you expect to see at the beginning of mmmmonday?"

STRATEGY

Children who do not have strong reading skills will focus on any part of the word, not necessarily on the beginning, like a mature reader would. This type of prompting helps children learn to focus their eyes on the beginning of the word.

Repeat this strategy with the rest of the days of the week.

Model for children how to highlight the initial letter of each word with a highlighter or highlighting tape.

Now, hand out one sentence strip to each child. If there are more children than days of the week, it is fine for more than one child to have the same day, as long as each child has their own sentence strip. Also give each child a highlighter, a yellow crayon, or highlighting tape.

Ask children to point to the initial letter of the "day of the week" word they received. Ask children to highlight the first letter in the word.

Once they finish, give each child a piece of tape and ask children to randomly stick their word on a wall anywhere around the room.

Bring everyone back to the center of the room, and explain that when you ask "Sunday, where have you been?" everyone should run to the sentence strip that has Sunday on it and point at it with their finger. Let the children know that you will be saying a different day of the week each time (e.g. "Tuesday, where have you been?").

Play this game several times, each time with a different day of the week. We recommend you ask about the days of the week in random order so children master the strategy of focusing on the initial sound. Once you see that children use the "initial sound" strategy to run and find the card for the day of the week you have shouted, you can start to ask about the days of the week in order.

THINGS I DO

After singing the song "Monday, Moon," ask children to brainstorm different things they might do on each day of the week. Create a new "Week Poem" using this sentence frame:

On _____ I _____.

ADAPT

Younger children can come up with any activity they would like to do on each day of the week. They may not be ready to match the initial sounds.

For older children, challenge them to come up with activities with an initial sound that matches the initial sound for the day of the week.

Example

On Monday I mow the grass.
On Tuesday I tickle my toes.
On Wednesday I water the plants.
On Thursday I throw a ball.
On Friday I ...

For older children you can extend this activity to ask children to think with whom they would like to do this activity with. If children are ready for an even bigger challenge ask them to come up with names that also start with the same initial letter of the days.

Example

On Monday I mow the grass with Maria.
On Tuesday I tickle my toes with Tatiana.
On Wednesday I water the plants with William.
On Thursday I throw a ball with Theo.
On Friday I ...

Ask children to act out the phrases in their "Week Poem" while they say the words, to help reinforce the initial sound patterns with the days of the week and the activities they have chosen.

BOOKS YOU MIGHT ENJOY

Today is Monday

Eric Carle

An illustrated song in which animals eat different foods each day of the week.

The Very Hungry Caterpillar/ La oruga muy hambrienta

Eric Carle

Classic picture book of a caterpillar eating different kinds of food each day of the week before transforming into a butterfly.

Seven Blind Mice/ Siete ratones ciegos

Ed Young

Rendition of a classic fable in which seven blind mice reach very different conclusions upon touching different parts of an elephant, one on each day of the week.

Mañana Iguana

in English with some Spanish words and a glossary

Ann Whitford Paul

Illustrations by Ethan Long

An exasperated iguana hears excuses each day of the week when she asks her friends to help her prepare for a party.

CREDITS

This Learning Guide was developed in collaboration with master teacher Heidimarie Freund-West and singer-songwriter and teaching artist 123 Andrés. To see all of the Learning Guides and for more information about the guides, their authors and how to use them, please visit www.123andres.com/learning. Special thanks to the following families for their help in developing the guides: Louis and Carlos' family, the Montoya Cabrera family, Maria Kammaraad and her family, Brooke Belville and her family, the Kopacko family, the Carollo family, the Eschelbach family, and the Diaz Evans family. Art and layout by Alcides Urrutia.