

Lesson Plans – Introduction of KitKat the Bunny

Age Group – Preschool 2-3 year old (12 children)

Setting – University Lab School which incorporates Project Approach using Creative Curriculum

Semester – Fall

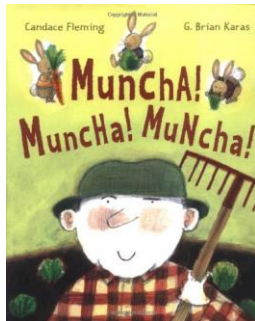
Goal – Children to gain a better understanding of their role with the bunny within the classroom

### Prior to Meeting the Bunny

Social Emotional, Literacy, Social Studies – Sharing Through Stories

Before bringing the bunny into the classroom the children will begin by reading stories about bunny rabbits. A popular story to read is *Muncha Muncha Muncha* by Candace Fleming. Children will gain an understanding that bunny rabbits are clever, enjoy vegetables, and can be found not only within the classroom but also in nature.

After reading the story children will be provided an opportunity to recall events within the story and share about their personal experiences with bunnies and other animals that live with people. We will instill the concept that KitKat is not a pet but rather a member of our classroom. *Language & Communication, engaging during group story, introduction to print concepts, sharing experiences through multiple mediums*



Social Emotional – Rules & Expectations

After several group and individual discussions about the bunny rabbit joining the classroom, children will learn about the rules and expectations. This is important for children to understand prior and reminders will be provided often during the first couple of weeks the bunny rabbit is in the classroom. Reminders will be provided as needed throughout out the year. *Following rules, awareness of rules & expectations, recognizing the feelings of others, recall, special awareness*

Rules – gentle hands, pet his back only, picking up the bunny is a stop, looking eyes, soft voices, wash hands before and after

Expectations – feed only teacher approved foods, assist in caring for the bunny, aware of our environment

## Science & Mathematics – Foods & Diet Chart

Children will learn what a bunny can and can not eat. After learning about a few of the fruit/vegetable items, children will engage in a food tasting activity. During the activity children will be provided with different fruits and vegetables to taste. Individual results will be charted on large paper during center time. When regrouping for group meeting the children will add up the results on their chart and display. *One-to-one counting, connection with written numbers, exploring five senses*

## Meeting the Bunny

Social Emotional, Language & Communication, Social Studies

Children will be introduced to the bunny during group meeting. During this time the children will be placed around the outer edge of the carpet while the teacher is holding the bunny in her lap. The children will take turns approaching the bunny, applying their new concepts of gentle hands and soft voices. After each child has a turn the teacher will place the bunny in his home for children to observe in groups of two. A teacher will be assigned to this area during the first week to ensure the safety of the children and the bunny, reminding children of the rules and engaging in dialogue/positive praise with the children.

Each day after during the first week the teacher will allow a small group of children to interact with the bunny at the group carpet center time. The group will contain no more than 3-4 children at one time. This will allow the children multiple opportunities to visit the bunny during their choice time while allowing the bunny to learn the scent and movements of the new children. *Environmental awareness, caring for self & others, application of classroom rules & expectations, recognizing feelings, engaging in dialogue, following simple directions*

## Throughout the Year

Social Studies, Cognitive, Social Emotional – Responsibility

Children will take turns assisting the teacher in caring for the bunny. Responsibilities will include: washing fruit/vegetables, prepping fruit/vegetables, measuring rabbit food, refilling water container, adding clean litter, changing bedding, and providing bunny with treats. Items that children will observe include: nail trimming, changing dirty litter, other care/maintenance to rabbit home. *Building sense of responsibility, learning the role of an animal caregiver, building self-help skills, turn-taking, patience*

## Mathematics & Science – Cooking Treats

Children will be provided with opportunities to cook bunny treats throughout the year. Introduction of new ingredients and tools will take place in addition to field experience in the kitchen and outdoor garden.



### Motor & Cognitive – Building Structures & Mazes

Children will be provided with opportunities to build structures, mazes and toys for the bunny rabbit using a variety of materials.

