



SHADOW by Suzy Lee BOOK GUIDE

A dark attic. A light bulb. An imaginative little girl.

Internationally acclaimed artist Suzy Lee uses these simple elements to create a visual tour de force that perfectly captures the joy of creative play and celebrates the power of imagination. This wordless picture book uses illustrations to tell about an amazing adventure that begins and ends with the click of a light bulb.

Use the following activities to inspire lively, educational and innovative playtime using only lights, shadows and a few simple materials.

CLICK

Ask kids to tell name some places and things that produce light. They may say: light bulbs, flashlights, sun, moon, stars, fire, and fireworks, lightning and fireflies. Using crayons, markers, glue and glitter, invite kids draw these sources of light two ways—when the light is shining and when its not. Compare and contrast the differences between when each one is glowing and when its not.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Drawing Paper
- Crayons, Markers and/or Colored Pencils
- Misc. paper scraps
- Glue Sticks

SHADOWS ON THE WALL

Set up a bright flashlight or projector on a table near an empty wall. Turn all other lights off. Let the children make shadows by using their hands and objects they've collected from around the room. Ask each child to pick a favorite shadow. Tape a piece of butcher-paper to the wall. Trace each child's favorite shadow onto the paper. When you put the lights back on, invite everyone to color and decorate the shadow mural you have all made from your favorite objects.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Flashlight
- Butcher Paper
- Crayons, Markers and/or Colored Pencils

SHOEBOX SCENE

Gather one shoebox for each child. Have them cut a small hole in the front of a shoebox and a square hole that can open and shut on the top of the lid. Cover both with brightly colored cellophane. Using arts and craft materials, such as clay, pipe cleaners, dry macaroni, pom-poms, beads, stickers, glitter and paint, have kids create a 3-dimensional scene inside the box. Have the children exchange boxes with a friend. Ask them to look inside with the square hole on the lid closed. Ask them what they see. If the hole is shut, they won't see anything. When it's open they will be able to see the scene. Let the children play





with the boxes with the lights in the room turned on and the lights in the room turned off. Discuss how we need light to see and how different amounts of light changes the way we see things.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Shoeboxes for each child
- Colorful cellophane (available in the floral department of craft stores)
- Misc. craft supplies: pipe cleaners, pom-poms, beads, macaroni, stickers
- Glue
- Scissors

SHADOW SILHOUETTES

Tape a large piece of white paper up on the wall. Shine a bright light or a projector on the paper. Turn the room lights off. Seat children (one at a time) between the lamp and the paper so that the shadow of his or her head is in the middle of the paper. Outline the shadow with a pencil. Then cut out a head pattern from the white paper and tape (important—don't glue) it to a piece of black construction paper. Carefully follow the pattern of the white head to cut out the silhouette on the black paper. Turn it over and glue the silhouette to a different sheet of white paper.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- White butcher or drawing paper
- Black construction paper
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Tape
- Glue

PATTERN PLAY

Make a pattern or shape in the bottom of a paper cup. Shine a flashlight into the cup. Point them at the wall. Look at your design come to life on the wall. Move the flashlight closer and further from the wall to make your design smaller and bigger.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Cup
- Knife
- Flashlight

STATUES

Put kids into pairs. Have one partner be the statue by standing very still in any position he or she wants. Ask the other partner to trace the outline of the statue's feet (so they can go back to the same position later.) Then have them trace the statue shadow on the ground with chalk. Wait 30 minutes. Then have the pairs go back to their spots. Tell the statue stand in his or her footprints and do the same pose again. Ask kids to notice the changes in the statues size and shape compared to the original chalk outlines they made 30 minutes earlier. Encourage students to discuss and guess what their shadows look like at different times of the day. Ask questions like: why do you think this happened? What will the statues shadows look like in three hours? What will the shadows look like when the sun is gone? What will the shadows look like tomorrow?

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- A sunny day
- Chalk

CRITICAL THINKING QUESTIONS

Wordless books are enjoyed by kids (and adults) of all ages! Depending on the age of the people you are sharing *Shadow* with, have them answer the questions below or dictate their answers to an adult.

What is your favorite picture from the book *Shadow*? Draw your own version of it.

Shadow does not have any words. Write or tell a story to go with the pictures.

Sometimes when you are in the dark, things look one way, but when you turn on the light, they look different. Write or talk about how the dark can spark the imagination.

