

About this guide:

Title: Kids of Oklahoma Find Your True North! Materials Kit

Overall art direction for guide.. (get 4 color so it should have a similar feel as the cover of the kids book

Size 11 x 17 folds to 8.5 by 11 printed 4/4

First 4 pages guide last, 4 pages reproducible from pages 20-23 in book (Make sure to add a line for each student to write their name at the top of each reproducible.)

Use KT1412 Guide for formatting guidance (but no blue Performance Indicators sections)

COPY FROM EDITORIAL:

In this kit, you'll find everything young children need to understand their own power, realize their hopes and dreams, and discover all the wonderful things they can do! Incorporating these materials and activities into your day is a great way to help the Kids of Oklahoma find their "True North"!

What's Included

Kids of Oklahoma Find Your TRUE NORTH book

Variety of Musical Instruments:

Tambourine

Bongo Drum

Triangle

Plastic Maracas - Pair

Chilean Rainsticks – Set of 2

Mexican Guiro

Baby Band Rhythm Set*

Young Architects Design Blocks - Master Set

Clip and Create Builders

Best-Buy Jumbo Building Bricks - Master Set

The Ultimate Fort Builder

Nonhardening Modeling Clay Bucket

Adventure Dress-Up Trunk

Soft & Squeezy Farm Animals*

Lakeshore Washable Baby Dolls*

Mix & Match Wild Animals*

**These materials are also appropriate for use with younger toddler-aged children.*

Before You Begin

Before you share the materials and activities in this guide with your children, we suggest that you first read the book **Kids of Oklahoma Find Your TRUE NORTH**. You will use this book to inspire children before involving them in the activities in this guide.

Sharing the Book with Your Class

Gather children to read the book to them as a group. Before opening the book, spend some time showing them the cover or passing it around. Ask children, *What do you think this story will be about? What do you notice about the pictures on the cover? Do you see anything that is special to Oklahoma? You are correct...This book was written especially for you!*

As you read the book to children, stop and ask questions, such as *Do you know what this star is called? (The North Star) Can anyone tell us what the word "value" means?* Help children point out things on the page that are symbols or landmarks of Oklahoma.

All About Me

Help children celebrate and record what makes them special. Copy and distribute the **All About Me** reproducible in this guide.

- Take some time to read the text on the page to children and encourage them to think about what makes each one of them unique.
- Children can use crayons or markers to answer the prompts and draw pictures of themselves, the people they love, and the activities they like to do.

My Dreams and Wishes!

Encourage children to dream of their futures. Ask them, *If you had one wish, what would it be? When you grow up, what would you like to be?*

Activities

- **Hopes and Dreams Wall** Have children create pictures that show their hopes and dreams or what they want to be when they grow up. Display student art on a wall in your classroom.
- **Self-Portrait** Provide paint, paper, and brushes and have each student create a self-portrait or show them how to paint a five-pointed star using their favorite colors.

Using the Materials

The materials included in this kit are specifically chosen to inspire children and engage them in open-ended creative play that may guide them towards their own True North. When children engage in dramatic play, they are developing decision-making, cooperation, problem-solving skills, self-expression, imaginative-thinking, and role-playing skills.

Musical Instruments

When children engage in music and movement, they are developing creativity and self-expression and discovering that they might have a talent or passion for the arts.

Activities:

- Set up a music center with tubs or containers of the included instruments. Put children in small groups and have them create a band with each child playing a different instrument.
- Set up a listening station with CDs of classical or jazz music and let children play instruments along with the music. Show children how to move their instruments to the

beat of the music. They can bounce to the beat, tap out the tunes, or just shake out their sillies!

Building Materials

When children create and play with blocks and building materials, they are developing their imaginations, as well as learning how to be problem solvers and persevere through challenges.

Activities:

- Have children use the **Best-Buy Jumbo Building Bricks** and **Young Architects Design Blocks** to pretend they are building a house or city. Ask open-ended questions to guide them, such as *Tell me about your building. What would you call it?* Compliment them when appropriate by saying things like, *I like how you used those design blocks to make your tower really tall.*
- Encourage cooperative play by pairing children or putting them in small groups to use the materials in **The Ultimate Fort Builder** to build the craziest or biggest fort. Ask open-ended questions to guide them, such as *How big do you want your fort to be? What if you added...?*

Adventure Dress-Up Trunk

When children play “dress up,” they can pretend to be someone or something different and extraordinary that also reflects their personality and current interests. Dress-up play also promotes creative thinking, language development, and social skills.

Activities:

- Put children in small groups of two or three and have them pretend that they are going on an adventure. Ask open-ended questions, like *What do you think you’ll discover on this adventure? What supplies will you need to bring?*
- Have a small group of two or three children dress up with materials from the trunk and ask them, *What kind of adventurer do you think you are?*

Soft & Squeezy Farm Animals (appropriate for toddlers)

Playing with open-ended toys like animal figurines helps children to develop language skills, boosts their creativity, and teaches them about nature.

Activities:

- Talk about the different animals in this set. Ask children, *Where might you see these kinds of animals? Why do you think some of the animals are so much smaller than others?*
- Set out all 10 animals on a rug or play area and let children pick up and explore the animals and place them in mama/baby pairs.

Lakeshore Washable Baby Dolls (appropriate for toddlers)

Unstructured play time with dolls encourages children to talk about others’ thoughts and feelings, developing empathy and important social skills.

Activity:

- Set dolls out in a dramatic play area that can be used to play “house.” Encourage children to nurture the babies by asking questions like, *What do you think a baby needs? How can you take care of this baby?*

Mix & Match Wild Animals (appropriate for toddlers)

When children mix and match different animal parts and colors, they are using their creativity and imaginations while also developing fine motor skills!

Activities:

- Set animals out in a manipulatives area for children to play with.
- Children can create new animals and give them names, and then use them with peers to engage in dramatic play.

Nonhardening Modeling Clay

When children work with art materials, they are developing creativity, self-expression, and a sense of accomplishment while discovering that they might have a passion or talent for the arts.

Activities:

- Give each child a piece of clay (or perhaps a few small pieces of different colors) and a place to work with the clay...at an art table, for instance.
- Demonstrate how children can roll the clay into balls or skinny “worms.” Ask children, *What do you think you could make with these shapes? A face? An animal? Or a whole new shape?*

Extend the Learning

Group Reading Time

Read books to your children that will encourage them to think big, dream big, and shoot for the stars! Below is a list of titles you might find in a library or at home:

- The Little Engine That Could
- Ruby’s Wish
- Amazing Grace
- The Wonderful Things You Will Be
- Iggy Peck Architect
- She Persisted
- Giraffes Can’t Dance
- Whistle for Willie
- Rosie Revere Engineer
- I Am One: A Book of Action

Explore the Arts

Create an art center with supplies for drawing, painting, sculpture, and collage. Aside from fostering creativity and imagination, art creation develops fine motor skills and visual learning.

Nature Learning

Take kids outside to spark their curiosity and explore nature. Connecting to nature encourages children to discover their love and passion for the world around them. Ask children to imagine where they could pretend to be in this outdoor space and see where their imaginations lead!