SPUNKY MONKEYS ON A PARADE

Monkeys in tights and riding bikes! Wow.....this is a really fun parade with interesting characters that you can "count" on!

Author: Stuart J. Murphy Illustrator: Lynne Cravath Pages: 33 Ages: 3 to 6 years Themes: Counting; music; exercise

You can get a lot of mileage out of this book. Not only can you count with your child but you can march and laugh along with all of the colorful monkeys that participate in this busy parade. Talk about any parade that you and your child may have gone to and talk about what you each remember and liked the most about the parade. Was it the bands, the floats, the horses?

If you are oatmeal eaters at your house, save an oatmeal box (round with plastic lid) and turn it into a drum. Cut a 2-inch slit on each side of the box and run an old belt through the slits so it can hook around the back of your child. By hooking the drum around your child, their hands are free to use pencils as drum sticks while they march. Washed chicken pot pie pans with tape across the bottom make great cymbals. Other fun instruments can be made out of paper towel dispensers. Get creative with a hat and you're all set to go.

There are other fun activity ideas in the back of this book.

(Be sure to mention that the monkeys may not be wearing helmets while they ride their bikes but kids should!)