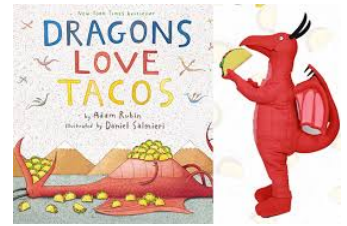


Dragons Love Tacos

By Adam Rubin



Possible Concepts from the Story:

- Cause and effect
- Making Connections
- Following rules
- Preferences (likes and dislikes)

Vocabulary: dragon, love, tacos, spicy, hate, crunchy, salsa, can't stand, tummy troubles, tomatoes, lettuce, cheese, parties, why, excited, eat, not, too late

Tips for teaching using this book: The objects in these particular boxes are all symbols for real items. If you can collect and provide the real and actual items (for example the milk and cookies from the story), your child can explore the items through the senses of taste, smell, and touch. This exploration will help the story and its concepts to be more readily understood.

You know your child or student the best. Please modify the activities to make sure the child has access to the activity and the story. Also, please modify the activities to ensure the safety of each individual child.

Ways to extend the learning and build concepts for the book:

Gross Motor:

- **Movement activity:** This is a game that gets your child moving but at the same time allows them to work on their prepositions! [Positional Word Game](#)
- **Dragon Hunt movement activity:** We're Going on a Dragon Hunt <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=41fSXZYjK0>
- **Help in the kitchen:** Have your child help you prep the area for cooking and set the table.

Art and Fine Motor:

- **Paper tacos:** Make tacos using construction paper. Cut out tomatoes, lettuce, taco shells, cheese, and meat.
- Make a [3-D tactile dragon](#).
- **Draw a picture:** If you were a dragon, what would you look like? Draw a picture and then share your picture.
- **D is for dragon art**



Math:

- **Counting/tally marks/graphing:** After everyone has made their own tacos, have them count out specific numbers of tomatoes, lettuce, cheese and meat to put on their tacos. Ask which they have more of, less of.
 - Make a chart with tally marks.
 - Create a bar/line graph
- **Counting/adding:** Play Feed the Dragon activity. (Included)
<https://rainydaymum.co.uk/dragons-love-tacos-math-game/>
- **Make a shape dragon:** Dragons are very colorful and come in many different shapes and sizes. Explore the colors and shapes of the dinosaurs! Make a shape dragon https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qL_2rWD0xhQ
- **Adding/subtracting:** Use the felt dragons (included) to practice addition and subtraction.
- **1:1 correspondence:** Use the felt dragons and fire (included) to match one dragon to one fire.

Literacy: Making Inferences and Predictions

Inferencing:

Why do you think dragons like tacos?

How do you think spicy food makes dragons feel?

Why do you think dragons like parties?

How do the dragons feel at the party?

How do they feel when they eat spicy food?

How do they feel at the end?

Predicting:

What do you think would happen if a dragon eats something spicy?

What do you think they will need for a big taco party?

What do you think will happen when they eat the tacos?

Other books to read:

- Little Pea by Amy Krouse Rosenthal
- Wonky Donkey by Craig Smith
- Dragons Love Tacos 2 by Adam Rubin
- After the Fall; How Humpty Dumpty Got Back up Again by Dan Santat

Writing:

- **Alphabetize** taco toppings.
- **Write** a taco recipe.
- **Compare/contrast** toppings using adjectives!
- [Dragon Sensory Writing Tray](#) is a great way to practice pre-writing skills and letter formation.
- **Following the rules:** Dragons should not eat spicy salsa. That was a very important rule. Make a list of rules for school or home.
- **Party ideas:** If you were going to have a party, draw a picture and write about the party. Would you invite a dragon?

Science:

- [Salsa Slime!](#) This is a great activity that investigates chemical change and a great way for your child to explore texture!
- [Smoking Dragon Science!](#) Make your Dragon breathe!
- Make a dragon breathe!
<https://onelittleproject.com/paper-roll-dragon-craft/>

Cooking - Tacos are delicious and a great way for children to explore what they like and don't like! It's time for you and your child to put on your aprons and chefs' hats.

- [Let's Make Tacos!](#)
- Make salsa

Exploring With Our Senses: Playing with our Food! As you and your child make tacos using the recipe above, ask them questions about what they are doing, feeling, and experiencing.

Taste:

- **Taco tasting:** Make tacos and explore all the ingredients by experimenting with tastes. Does it taste sweet, sour, bitter, salty, umami, or savory? Explore the 5 different taste qualities. (Did you know spicy is actually not considered a taste, it is actually a pain sensation). Which did you like? Why? Which ingredient didn't you like? What would you ultimately put on your taco?
- **Make a chart** with likes and dislikes using pictures, items, words, etc.
- **Make salsa** and taste

Touch:

- **Touching ingredients:** How does it feel when we touch different ingredients with our hands? Cheese vs. Tomatoes? Hard tacos vs. soft tacos?
- **Where is ____?:** Place the felt dragons in front of the child. Ask the child “Where is the red dragon?” Have the child reach out and give it to you. Continue with the rest of the dragons.
- **Following directions:** Use the included taco and burrito items to build a burrito and make a taco.

Smell:

- **Cooking smells:** Compare the smells of the meat as you are browning it and after you have added the taco seasoning. How does it differ? Use adjectives to describe what they are smelling!

Proprioception:

- **Table setting:** Set the table for your Taco Party! This is a great way for students to work on their proprioceptive skills. They can stand in one area while placing different ingredients around them on the table.

Vestibular:

- **Creative tacos:** Using play-doh, have your child create the kind of taco a dragon would eat!
- **Going on a Dragon Hunt** yoga activity
<https://youtu.be/oYl3qukcTil?si=ZUvcPH9zr5zObfps>

Interoception:

- **Discuss** interoception concepts such as fiery breath/insides
- When else do dragons experience heat in their bodies?
- When do you experience heat in your body (face, palms, ears, stomach, breath)
- Why do the dragons typically stay away from spicy food?
- What could the dragons do next time they see a food that doesn't agree with them?
- **Do you disagree?:** What strategies do you use when you don't agree with something or someone?
- **Play the Who Likes Game?:** Or the Likes and Dislikes Same and Different Game <https://www.tefl.net/elt/ideas/games/likes-dislikes-games/>

Vision:

- **Play with colors:** Tacos are very colorful! Talk about the colors you see! Talk about the shapes you see!
- **Find the fire!:** Use the felt dragons included to name colors and find the hidden fire. (Put the fire under/behind a dragon and the child names a color to see if the fire is there.)
- **Describe the dragon:** Using the three dragons included, describe what they look like by sight or feel (color, head, tail, wings, etc)
- **Same and different:** How are the three dragons the same and different?

Hearing:

- Hard tacos are crunchy but soft tacos are not!
- If a dragon roars, what would it sound like?
- If a dragon is not feeling well, stomach ache, what noise would the dragon make?

Additional resources to support the use of the story box:

- Using the Story Box
- Sign language vocabulary QR code document
- The story signed in ASL can be found:



The Wisconsin Deafblind Technical Assistance Project is here to help. If you have questions, would like to set up a time to brainstorm how to use the story box with a child or to look at different ways to teach the concepts and vocabulary within the story, please contact us.

wdbtap@wesp-dhh.wi.gov



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