## In Our Mothers' House

## RIF EXTENSION ACTIVITIES FOR EDUCATORS

INTERDISCIPLINARY THEMES: ART, MATH, SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING, WRITING

## SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING, WRITING

## FAVORITE PLACE TO BE

Millie's favorite place to be was at the hearth in the brown shingled house. Have students describe and draw their favorite places to be. Ask them to include five descriptive words about their favorite place. For students who need support, print a list of descriptive words and allow them to select their words from the list.


## ART

DESIGN A HALLOWEEN COSTUME
No matter the time of year, ask your students to think of a Halloween costume they might like to wear. Then, provide a variety of materials that will help them design it. Designs may be drawings on paper, cut paper mock-ups, or 3D models.


## ART, MATH



## POPSICLE STICK TREE HOUSE

Challenge small groups of students to plan and build a model tree house. Project pictures of model treehouses to inspire them. Allow teams to inspect the materials (e.g., popsicle sticks, cardboard) they will have to work with before groups begin to develop a plan. Once they have a plan, have them select the precise materials they need and begin to build. Provide enough time for them to complete the treehouses and then display them in the classroom. (To encourage collaboration, remind students that the treehouse in the book took the whole neighborhood to build.)


## SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

## CLASSROOM "BLOCK" PARTY

Create a block party in your classroom to build community or celebrate a milestone. Pair students to create and host an activity at their "booth"/ desk. Have them focus on games and activities that are quick and fun with minimal materials (e.g., guess the number of marbles, drawing challenges, trivia). Approve the activities before students finalize their work. Host the party.

## WRITING

THESE THINGS MAKE A FAMILY
Create found poems about family. Have each student in the class write, draw, or dictate up to three words related to family on slips of paper. Then, collect all the slips of paper in a box, hat, etc. Review the words before distributing and add words, if necessary. Shake. Pass the container and have each student take three slips of paper. Challenge students to write a three-line poem about family that includes all three words: starting with, ending with, or incorporating one of the words on each line.


