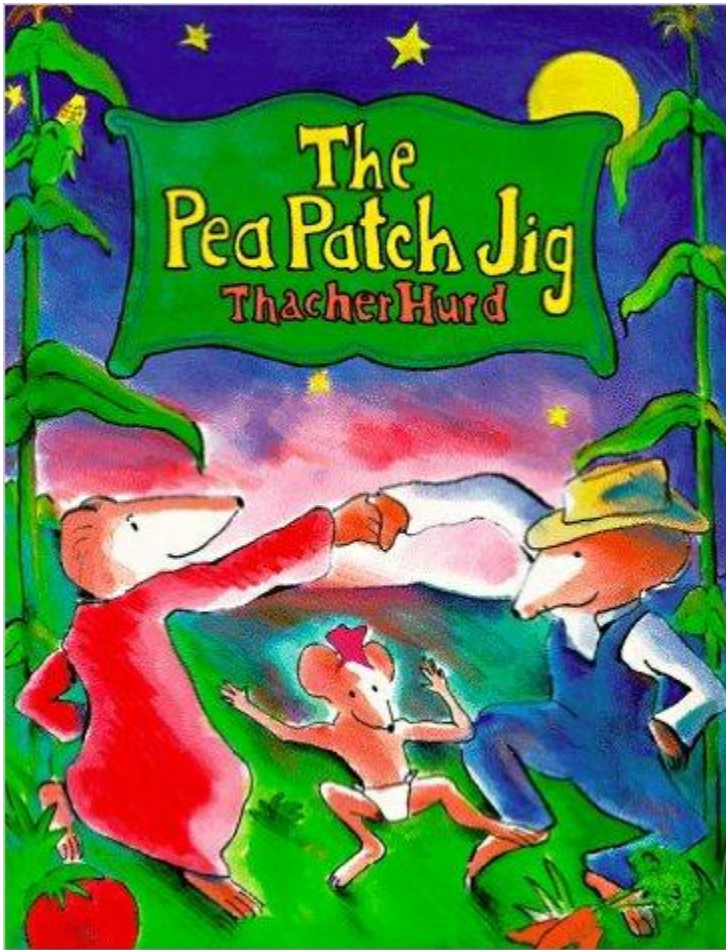


The Pea Patch Jig

Curriculum Guide

ISBN: 978-1-939547-21-7

Introduce children to gardening, adventure, humor and more, while connecting to literature. Bring books to life with book extension activities.



Standard topics:

- Behaving/Misbehaving
- Gardening/Farming
- Exploring new situations
- Humor
-

Objectives:

- To explore what it means to misbehave.
- To show students how plants grow.
- To present the concept of being brave and going on an adventure.
- To connect literature with humor.

Key Terms/Concepts:

- Misbehaving
- What a farmer does.
- Being brave
- Humor
- Midsummer

Background Information

This beloved classic is finally back in print to be enjoyed by a new generation of eager readers

“Where the pole beans climb, where the tomatoes grow fat, where the onions smell sweet and the corn is yellow as the summer sun, that’s the garden of Clem — Farmer Clem.” So begins this story about Baby Mouse, a tiny mouse who loves to go exploring in the garden. But watch out! You never know what might happen when Baby climbs into a head of lettuce, or up a tomato plant, or when there’s a fox on the prowl. These are some of the ingredients of *The Pea Patch Jig* — a book as refreshing as a summer evening in Vermont.

Inspired by the traditional song *The Pea Patch jig*, which was unearthed by the great songwriter singer John Hartford.

“Colorful, lively, funny, original.” — Starred Review, *School Library Journal*

“Lively visual humor, luminous color and a sure sense of design bring the simple text to vibrant life.”

— Kirkus

While you read:

- Ask questions; sample questions are below.
- Discuss what it means to misbehave.
- Ask how it would feel to be the farmer, the parents, Baby Mouse.
- Ask the students to point out different parts of the illustrations.
- Have the students count how many vegetables they see in the pictures.
- Have the students predict what will happen next.

Questions:

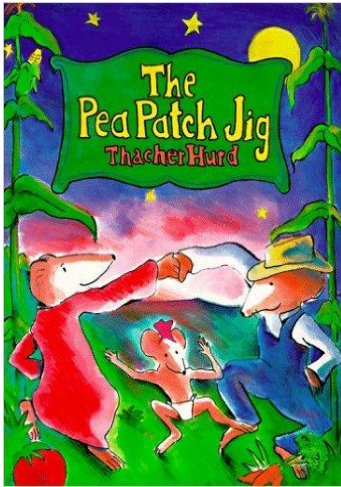
- What does a farmer do?
- Why doesn’t Farmer Clem know the Mouse family shares his garden?
- What is a Midsummer Party? Have you ever celebrated Midsummer?
- What happened when Baby Mouse climbed into the lettuce?
- What do you think would happen if Farmer Clem noticed that Baby Mouse was in the lettuce?
- Is Baby Mouse behaving?
- What would happen to you if you left the house and went outside by yourself?
- What does the fox want to do? What does Baby Mouse do to stop the fox?

Activities:

- Plant some flowers, grow a potato, have the students grow grass in a basket. Instructions for some gardening activities are below in the Additional Resources.
- Have the students draw pictures about the book. Printable coloring page: <http://mosswoodconnections.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/The-Pea-Patch-Jig-Coloring-Page.pdf>
- Give the students the Maze worksheet: <http://mosswoodconnections.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/Pea-Patch-Jig-Maze.pdf>
- Give the students the Matching Worksheet: <http://mosswoodconnections.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/Pea-Patch-Jig-Matching-worksheet.pdf>
- Play “Put the Pea on the Fox”. <http://mosswoodconnections.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/The-Pea-Patch-Jig-Target-Game.pdf>
- Make a Paper Salad. Instructions are here: <http://mosswoodconnections.com/activities/new-art-activities/make-paper-salad/>
- Explore math with the Counting Worksheet. <http://mosswoodconnections.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/The-Pea-Patch-Jig-Counting-Page.pdf>

Additional Resources:

- Watch the Pea Patch Jig Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6T0rlvsJXGU>
- My First Garden: <http://extension.illinois.edu/firstgarden/>
- How to grow a potato: <http://homeguides.sfgate.com/make-potato-plant-water-cup-61262.html>
- How to grow grass in a basket: <http://www.wikihow.com/Grow-a-Spring-or-Easter-Basket>
- Gardening songs and coloring pages: http://www.acdl.info/sites/default/files/CAP_gardens.pdf
- Midsummer Celebrations: <https://tressabelle.wordpress.com/2011/06/05/kids-activities-for-midsummer-summer-solstice/>



The Pea Patch Jig by Thatcher Hurd

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Trim Size: 8 1/4"x10 1/4"

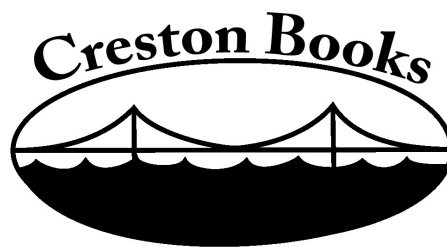
Pages: 40

Ages: 3 and up

Full color images throughout

Juvenile Fiction/Humorous Stories

Thacher Hurd is the author and illustrator of many books for children, including *Mama Don't Allow*, *Art Dog*, and *Mystery on the Docks*. His most recent book is *Bongo Fishing*, his first middle grade novel, a warm, funny trip around the galaxy with two friendly aliens from the Pleiades. Among many other honors, he has received a Boston Globe-Horn Book award and a New York Times Best Illustrated Award. He lives in Berkeley, California



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