

# DO OTHER THINGS

Directed by Helena Giersz (USA/ 4"/ 2005)

Leader's Guide • 1

This upbeat story brings two young rabbits waiting for their apple tree to grow. They need the apples so their mother will bake them an apple pie!

Nicky and Roo ask their mother to make them an apple pie. Instead of going to the store, they plant apple seeds. They wait and wait—all day until the sun goes down—but the tree doesn't grow. The title song of the film gives the little rabbits some advice on how to pass the time, "The best way to wait is to do other things. What're you going to do?"

Well, the rabbits find lots of wonderful things to do in summer: playing in the sea, making a castle, skipping rope, swinging on swings, building a clubhouse in a tree, going fishing. But still the tree hasn't grown enough. So the rabbits find different things to do as the seasons pass—playing in the snow and building a snowman. The spring brings warmer weather and the tree blossoms with white flowers. And by summer, the tree is full of apples! Nicky and Roo take a basketful of apples to their mother who cooks their apple pie. "All that waiting was worth it," say Nicky and Roo, "Thank you Mom!"

## What's THAT Word?

**Look for it in the film:**

clubhouse

## Questions for "FILM TALK!"

- WHO is in the film?
- WHO ARE THE CHARACTERS in the film?
- WHAT KIND OF film is this?
  - Is this film in the LIVE-ACTION STYLE, or
  - Is it in the CARTOON/ ANIMATION style?
- WHERE do the events of the film take place?
  - How would you describe the SETTING?
- WHEN do the events of the film take place—
  - In the present time? In a past time?
  - In a future time? In what seasons?
- WHAT HAPPENS in the film?
  - Summarize/shorten your ideas to explain:
    - WHAT HAPPENS in the beginning of the film?
    - WHAT HAPPENS in the middle of the film?
    - WHAT HAPPENS at the end of the film?
- WHAT is the PROBLEM/ the CONFLICT in the film?
- WHY do you think the filmmaker made this film?
  - What ideas was she trying to SHOW?
  - Do you think the filmmakers had a MESSAGE or LESSON or THEME?
- HOW did the filmmaker show her ideas?
- HOW did she use VISUAL PICTURES?
- HOW did she use MUSIC to tell the story?

# DO OTHER THINGS

Leader's Guide • 2

## ACTIVITY 1 Songs and Music

This film is a musical. Discuss music with the children. What do they know about music? What songs do they know?

### I Know Songs and Music

#### Musical Instruments

Strings:	Violin
Woodwinds:	Clarinet
Brass:	Trumpet

#### Music from different cultures

Puerto Rico:	Aguinaldo
Jewish:	Klezmer
Christian:	Carols

#### Popular Music

Rock en Español
Rap
House Music



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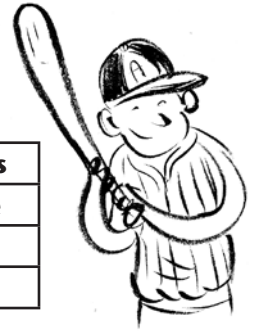
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## ACTIVITY 2 Games! Games! Games!

Ask children what games they know. Use the chart to organize ideas.

Board Games	Playground Games	Sports	Computer Games
Candyland	Jump rope	Baseball	Northwest Passage
Chess	Catch	Dodge Ball	Math Blaster
Checkers	Hop Scotch	Basketball	Reader Rabbit



## ACTIVITY 3 My Fun Film

The children in the film find fun things to do while waiting: playing in the sea, making a castle, skipping rope, swinging on swings, building a clubhouse in a tree, going fishing. Ask children to plan their own film about fun things to do.

### Scenes from My Fun Film



Basketball



Arts and crafts projects



Making web-sites

## FIND OUT MORE!

*Investigate with research*

- How plants grow

## RELATED VIDEOS

*Ballet Shoes*

*Indoor Fun*

*Let's Create Art Activities*

*Let's Do It!/ Professor Iris, games, dancing, and sports* (designed for pre-schoolers)

*Rainy Day Games and Rainy Day Magic Show*



Your Name \_\_\_\_\_



**ACTIVITY 1** *I Know Music and Songs*

This film is a musical. What do you know about music? *Draw pictures or name a few.*

**Musical Instruments**

**Music from different cultures**

**Popular Music**

What songs do you know? *Draw pictures or name a few.*

.....

**ACTIVITY 2** *Games! Games! Games!*

What games do you know? *Draw a picture or write the name of the game in the chart below*

<b>Board Games</b>	<b>Playground Games</b>	<b>Sports</b>	<b>Computer Games</b>

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

**ACTIVITY 3 Fun Film!**

In the film, Nicky and Roo have fun doing other things while waiting.

*Label the actions in the illustrations.*



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Next, Plan your own Fun Film —*

Share your fun ideas with others!

**Scenes from My Fun Film**

**Dear Family Members,**

Today, your child attended the “Best of the Fest Film Festival”! While the films are great, you should know that the program was put together by experts in child development. We’re sending you a film description so you can talk about the film with your child. It is important to help children understand film and media. The most important person who will help them to understand the messages of media are parents and guardians. We’re including an activity sheet so you can continue film activities with your child. Adapt the activities for your child. All they need is a pencil and paper. *Enjoy!*

**ACTIVITY 1**

Ask your child to tell you about the film, *Do Other Things*

- What did they like best about the film?
- Why do they think the film was picked to be in the film festival?

**ACTIVITY 2**

Read the description of the story to your child. As you read, ask your child to explain how the different parts of the story looked in the film.

**DO OTHER THINGS**

*Directed by Helena Giersz (USA/ 4"/ 2005)*

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Well, the rabbits find lots of wonderful things to do in summer: playing in the sea, making a castle, skipping rope, swinging on swings, building a clubhouse in a tree, going fishing. But still the tree hasn’t grown enough. So the rabbits find different things to do as the seasons pass — playing in the snow and building a snowman. The spring brings warmer weather and the tree blossoms with white flowers. And by summer, the tree is full of apples! Nicky and Roo take a basketful of apples to their mother who cooks their apple pie. “All that waiting was worth it,” say Nicky and Roo, “Thank you Mom!”

**ACTIVITY 3**

After reading the film story description, be sure to ask your child the more important questions about the film—

- Why do they think it was made? and
- How do they think the filmmaker made it?

Here are some sample questions to ask:

- WHY do you think the filmmaker made this film?
- Do you think the filmmaker had a MESSAGE or LESSON or THEME?
- HOW did the filmmaker show her ideas?
- HOW did she use VISUAL PICTURES?
- HOW did she use SOUND to tell the story: music, sound effects, words?

The film shows the time it takes to plant a seed and watch it grow into a tree before it is ready to bear fruit. Ask your child to explain the pictures below:



Waiting for their apple tree to bear fruit, Nicky and Roo “do other things” as the seasons pass. Discuss things your child likes to do during the different seasons of the year. Ask them to draw a picture of things to do in each season.

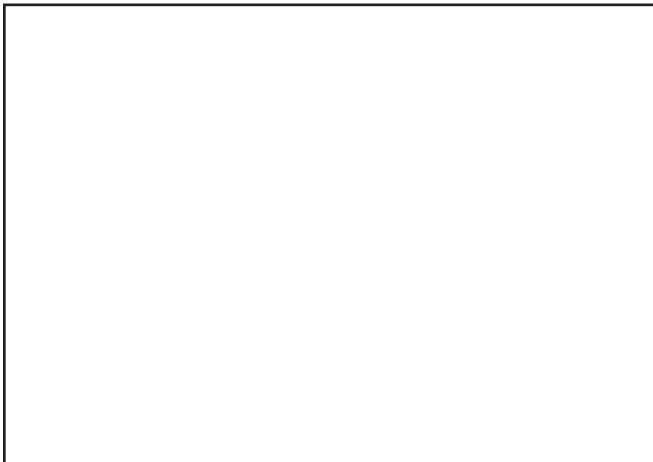
**Things to Do in Spring**



**Things to Do in Summer**



**Things to Do in Fall**



**Things to Do in Winter**

