



Dear Colleague,

We hope you find this guide to Maggie's Earth Adventures, www.missmaggie.org, a valuable tool as you plan how to best use the "treasure box" of Maggie's material in your classroom!

Your friends at Maggie's Earth Adventures

Printable Classroom Material:

Remember – all of our material is available in Spanish, too! For those of you in bilingual classrooms, you can print most of our activities in both English and Spanish.



Weekly Activity Packets

We offer our Weekly Activity Packets on both the primary and intermediate levels. Additionally, some selected activities will be offered for the emergent reader. Because the topics of these activities are the same, some teachers may find it useful to use both levels in a classroom for the differing abilities children bring to us. All activities are complete with standards-aligned goals.

You can find the posting of these printable worksheets each Tuesday on the link that will be sent to you via e-mail. In the event that you are reading this and you have not yet signed up for this free service, please visit our homepage at www.missmaggie.org and click the "Free Classroom Ready Activities" bar located just above the printer icon. You are free to duplicate and distribute these activities as you deem appropriate.

We have purposefully designed these worksheets to be completed with little teacher direction so that you may use them as homework, seatwork, at centers, or for selected students who need extra work.

Remember, our numbers are what keep us going, so please don't share the link but DO encourage your friends and colleagues to sign up on line so they, too, can participate in this free program.

If you have suggestions or needs for a topic, please send them to us at Kathy@missmaggie.org. We have incorporated many of your curricular needs into our packets.



Free Lesson Plans and Activity Sheets

If you are interested in lessons that encourage group problem solving, critical thinking skills, and use of multiple intelligences, then go to www.missmaggie.org and click on "FREE LESSON PLANS" in the yellow **Teachers' Lounge** bar on the right side. Here you will find many activities you can use in the classroom. We include language arts, math, science, and social studies offerings. Many of the activities are integrated so more than one subject area is presented. In some cases you will also find suggested books and poetry about each subject.

All of our activities can be printed out in classroom-ready form by scrolling to the bottom of the page and clicking on the PDF link. You do not have to present the cartoons and related interactive material to your students to assign this material to your students.

To help you become better acquainted with our **Teachers' Lounge** material, we have chosen a few activities for you. Follow the directions below to explore this section of the site. We hope this will give you a good idea of what is available to you and your students.

Click on the words, "Rushin' River" in the yellow box. Here you will find many activities relating to Russia to include popular stories and folktales. Scroll down and click on "The Samovar". In this activity your students are given a brief description of this Russian, household product and a photograph to use as a writing prompt.

Click on the words, "Herd of Elephants, Part 2" in the top yellow box. You will find activities such as a detailed guide on how to conduct an Integrated Author study. There is an extensive annotated bibliography of easy to obtain folktale books, correlated multi-subject activities, and open-ended charts for easy classroom use. Scroll down to "Language Arts", and you will find printable folktales told directly to us by a member of the Zulu tribe in South Africa along with classroom activities using the multiple intelligences approach.

Go back to the main **Teachers' Lounge** page (either by clicking your "Back" button, or by clicking on the "Maggie's Earth Adventures" logo at the top of the page and again clicking on "Free Lesson Plans" in the **Teachers' Lounge**.) Then click on the second yellow box, "Herd of Elephants, Part 1" and scroll down to the bottom of the page. Under "Social Studies" you will find an article on how elephants are being used as ambassadors in the African country of Angola. Upper grade teachers may want to print out this article and distribute to groups of students. After reading it, your children can choose one of the writing ideas or you may want to hold a classroom debate as suggested.

Primary teachers will find something just for them in this mission's lessons. They are sure to love the printable activity sheets to accompany the **Magic Tree House** book, *Lions at Lunchtime!* This can be found in the "Language Arts" section.

Again go back to the main **Teachers' Lounge** page and scroll down to the third yellow box. Click on the title, "You Must Be Choking." In the "Math" section click on "Problem Solving." You will find math problems designed to help students understand that math is used in making real life decisions. You may want to use these problems as part of math journals or integrate them into nonfiction writing assignments. They also lend themselves to cooperative learning groups and situations.

Finally, on the main **Teachers' Lounge** page, scroll down to the fourth yellow box, and click on the title, "A Great Catch." Scroll down to the "Science" section and click on "Water Temperature and Salinity Experiment." Here you will find directions for a hands-on

experiment with a printable direction and observation sheet for your students. There is also a separate teacher's guide for the science lesson. What could be easier - a ready-made science lesson!

Postcard Section

Get to this section by clicking on the big red button on the homepage. When it opens up, click on the blue rectangle labeled "Postcards."



A picture may be worth a thousand words – but sometimes your students need pictures to help them generate those words! Our "Postcard" section currently offers many pictures of The Giant's Causeway, Elephants, African animals and artifacts. You or your students can select a set of pictures to view and print. Change the picture by moving the mouse over the camera.

When you have found a picture you like, choose and print a writing organizer to help your students gather their thoughts. You may choose from Story Clock, a visual that helps students with sequence (i.e. they may write "First I saw a flash of black and white", etc.), Description Web, to help them generate specific details, News Article, (a hand visual that helps students with who, what, where, when, and why) or Postcard to allow for journal-type writing.

We have plans to add more pictures to this section to parallel our Weekly Activity Packets, so check back often!

Interactive Learning Opportunities:

Games

Find by clicking on the big red button on the homepage. When it opens up, click on the Games rectangle.

Do your students need to practice their math facts? Do you wish they were better spellers? Do you want them to know the parts of a flower or that the prefix *trans-* means *across*? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, then you need to send your kids to the "Games" section. Many teachers have their class log onto the games when they are in the computer lab. Some teachers take the class to the lab as part of math class or use the computer as a math center. You can have students play games such as "Around the World In 80 Seconds."



The activities embedded in the cartoons are helpful with specific curricular goals. When studying contractions or possessives, your children could do the “its or it’s” activity found in “You Must Be Choking.” You may suggest to a particular parent that their child needs practice with ordering fractions. This activity is found in “Herd of Elephants, Part 1.” Be sure to enjoy the many patterning activities in “Herd of Elephants, Part 2.” The snake patterns are lots of fun for the beginning of the year as many of us will be concentrating on this important building block for math and spelling understanding. If you just want to show the animation as a whole group lesson simply click the “skip” button to move through the animation.

These are just a few examples of the many “extras” you can offer your students. Won’t parents be happy with all you are providing for their children?

And Because You’ve Asked:



So many of you have asked for archived material, and we’ve responded. You can visit our Bookstore section, found by clicking the blue bar on the Teachers’ Lounge or under the big red button. Here you can purchase access to our archived classroom-ready activities for just \$15 a year. You will find hundreds of pages of math, language arts, science, social studies, and art material, just waiting to be put in the hands of your students. All activities are complete with standards-aligned goals. Many have suggestions for lesson extension and ways to use Multiple Intelligences to go beyond paper and pencil. While “visiting” Mexico, your students will practice content area reading skills such as finding main idea and summarizing material. Test-taking skills are enhanced in a story about the Chinese Dragon Boat Festival. Children get needed practice in math problem solving AND they learn about subjects such as trees and spiders. We chose topics that are relevant to the classroom and satisfy inquiring young minds, and use these topics as the basis for important skill practice.

Many teachers have asked us for hard copies of their favorite activities. We’ve put together the best of Maggie’s Math into a duplicating book, **Math Mania**. We all know the importance of problem solving, from elapsed time to choosing the correct operation. And it’s all here! You’ll find one hundred pages of problems ready for your classroom. Whales, the Great Lakes, and even artistic elephants, the themes of these problem solving pages are sure to motivate even the “shiest” math student. You can find this book in our Bookstore for only \$15 with free shipping!

If you are looking for that perfect audio CD for your listening center, you’ll find it here. **The Lost World** is Maggie’s first BOOK adventure – on tape! Your students can sharpen their listening skills by joining Maggie as she and her friends discover the source of green water and a fish die-off. Along the way, they’ll experience the rich Russian culture, including a folktale that is woven into the plot line. You will have access to follow-up student activities. By completing these printable sheets, students will show their understanding of Maggie’s audio adventure!