

## Letter: 'F'

**Story of the Week: There Was An Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly**  
 - by: Simms Taback

	STORY	ACTIVITY	MATERIALS	
			PROVIDED	NEEDED
Day 1	<u><i>There Was An Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly</i></u>	Letter Introduction, Letter Activity - Fingerprint 'F'	Letter F, Paint	
Day 2	<u><i>There Was An Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly</i></u>	<u>Do-A-Dot</u> - Letter 'F', Old Lady Story Prop	<u>Do-A-Dot</u> Book/Markers, Old Lady Story Prop with Animals, Grey Yarn, Markers/Crayons & Glue	
Day 3	<u><i>There Was An Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly</i></u>	Paper Plate Frog	Paper Plate, Green Paint, Ovals (eyes, tongue), Legs, Glue	
Day 4	<u><i>There Was An Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly</i></u>	Frog Life Cycle	Paper Plate, Bubble Wrap, Brown Paint, Green Frog, Markers & Glue	

**Day 1:**

-  **Story – There Was An Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly**  
 Show your child the book and tell them the letter of the week is 'F'. Show them the letter 'F' on the cover and tell them that the word "fly" begins with this letter. Read the title, and ask your child, "What do you think will happen to her from swallowing a fly?" Allow the child to respond. Read the story. Then ask your child to name the things that the lady swallowed. You may need to ask questions to lead the discussions, such as "What did she swallow first?" (fly). Then, "What did she swallow to catch the fly?" Continue asking these questions to test your child's understanding of the story sequence.
-  **Letter Introduction**  
 Show your child the letter 'F' and introduce the name and sound. Tell your child that today they are going to play a game where you draw things that

begin with the letter 'F' and they are going to guess what they are. Some easy things to draw are fingers, flowers, and feet.

-  **Letter Activity – Fingerprint 'F'**  
Next, give your child the letter 'F', and tell them that they are going to make "Fingerprint 'F's". Have them dip a finger into the paint and make fingerprints on their letter. Let them be creative and do as many as they would like. You can even have them use a variety of colors and count the fingerprints when they're done.

### Day 2:

-  **Story – There Was An Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly**  
Prior to reading, talk with your child about rhymes. Explain that words that rhyme sound the same in the middle and end of the word. Give some examples of words that rhyme (i.e. cat and bat, frog and log). Tell them to listen for words that rhyme as you read them the story. When they hear a rhyme, they're to say "Rhyme Time".

Please note: Rhyming can be hard for some children. So, if they are unable to hear the words that rhyme, stop at the end of the page and help them. Even if they are unable to find them on their own, they will begin to understand as you point out the rhymes.

-  **Do-A-Dot - Letter 'F'**  
Follow the directions at the beginning of this manual.
- **Old Lady Story Prop**  
Tell your child that they are going to make the old lady from the story. Show them the cut out person with the bag attached. Explain that the bag is the lady's stomach. Have them draw a face on the lady and add yarn hair. You can even glue on some googly eyes. Finally, have them color the animals that the lady swallowed. Show your child how the animals go inside the plastic bag stomach. When they are done, have them try to tell you the story using the old lady prop and the animals.

### Day 3:

-  **Story – There Was An Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly**  
and a story about a frog from the list below (optional)

As you read the story, have your child use the props they made on Day 2.

- **Paper Plate Frog**

Tell your child that they are going to make a frog today. Have your child paint the plate green on both sides. When it is dry, fold the top third of the plate toward you. Then have them glue the two half ovals (eyes) on the back of the plate so that they protrude above the top of the fold. Place a dot in the middle of the eyes. Next, color the oval shaped tongue red and glue it to the bottom 2/3<sup>rds</sup> of the plate. Finally, show your child how to bend the rectangles accordion style and attach them to the bottom of the plate to form their legs.

### **Day 4:**

-  **Story – *There Was An Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly***  
and a story about a frog from the list below (optional)

Have your child use the props they made on Day 2 to act out the story as you read. When you finish the story, ask your child to show you the order in which the old lady ate the animals.

- **Frog Life-Cycle**

Talk with your child about the life cycle of a frog. Use a marker to divide the plate into three equal sections.

1. Have your child glue the bubble wrap at the top of the plate. Explain that frogs hatch from eggs that are laid in the water by frogs.
2. In the next section, have your child dip their thumb into black paint and then press it onto the plate. Then have them draw a little tail to form a tadpole. Tell your child that the eggs hatch into tadpoles that swim in the water like little fish.
3. Finally have your child glue the frog cut-out in the last section. Tell them that the tadpole changed into a frog, and it can now swim in the water and hop on the land.



### **Additional Literature Resources:**

- ***The Mysterious Tadpole*** – by: Steven Kellogg
- ***Frederick*** – by: Leo Lionni
- ***Even Firefighters Hug Their Moms*** – by: Christine Kole Maclean