



APPLES ON THE APPLE TREE

TYPE OF ACTIVITY: Art

KEY CONCEPT: Eat a variety of foods



OBJECTIVES:

- › Children will identify apples as fruits.
- › Children will describe the qualities of apples (e.g., grow on trees, have stems, different types and colors).
- › Children will practice fine motor skills by drawing and cutting out their own apples.

MATERIALS:

- › Apples of various colors (or pictures)
- › Photo of an apple tree
- › Paper
- › Markers or crayons (e.g. red, yellow, green, brown, pink)
- › MyPlate poster
- › Large drawing of an apple tree without fruit
- › Tape or glue sticks
- › Age-appropriate scissors

PROCEDURE:

1. Show the MyPlate poster and ask children which food group apples belong to. Point out the fruit group on the poster.
2. Explain that apples are a fruit and they come in many different colors. Ask the children to list different colors of apples. Ask the children if they know where apples grow. Suggested phrases:
 - a. *What color are apples?*
 - b. *Apples come in many colors. There are red, green, yellow, and pinkish-red ones. Which color apple is your favorite?*
 - c. *Do you know where apples grow? That's right, on trees.*



3. Show children a photo of an apple tree. Ask the children what color different parts of the apple tree are. Show them the tree that you've made for their apples. Explain that they will be making apples to put on the tree.
4. Give the children adequate time to make their apples. While they are working, talk about the different colors they are using and the process of creating. When children are finished drawing, encourage them to cut out their apples.
5. After children are finished cutting out their apples, encourage them to tape or glue their apples to the apple tree.

ADAPTATIONS/EXTENSIONS:

Science: Leave a cut apple sitting out and observe how it turns brown. Dip another cut apple into lemon juice to see if it turns brown. Invite children to predict what will happen to the apples. Talk about the difference between the two apples.

Literature: Read *Apples* by Gail Gibbons and talk about how apples grow on trees, the different parts of apples, and the different types and colors of apples.

Math: Encourage children to taste different colored apples and talk about which kind each child likes best.

