

I'm a Gluten-
Sniffing Service Dog

POP

AT HOME

GROWN-UP ACTIVITY GUIDE

LITERACY

Encourage early literacy experiences to ensure a lifetime of literacy success.

Before You Read

Ask: Have you ever seen a service dog?

If you have seen a service dog, how did they help their owner?

How can a dog help a person?

Do you know what gluten is?

While You Read

Ask: What is Chewie having trouble with?

What kinds of things distract him?

What does Chewie do to check the food?

How does he signal there is gluten?

After You Read

Ask: What did the story teach you about Celiac Disease?

What happened in the beginning, middle, and end?

Take five foods or pictures of food and pretend you are Chewie the Gluten Sniffing Service Dog. First, "Check!" Next, "Sniff. Sniff."

Then, if there is gluten in the food, be like Chewie and "circle, circle ALERT!"

Materials you need:

I'm a Gluten Sniffing Service Dog (book) and food items or pictures of food items

MATH

Build your child's understanding of numbers through the variety of manipulatives within the box.

Shape Hunt

Have the child go on a shape hunt throughout the book. Make a tally mark chart (example below) and as you go through each page, mark a tally mark for each shape you see.

Circle	
Triangle	
Rectangle	
Oval	

Patterns

On the page where Chewie graduates, there are many patterns. Can you spot at least three ABAB patterns? Try making your own pattern by using actual products or drawing an AB pattern of gluten free food and non-gluten free food.

Materials you need:

I'm a Gluten Sniffing Service Dog, pencil and paper, gluten free or non-gluten free items.

GROSS MOTOR

Strengthen movements of the large muscles of the arms, legs, and torso to help child gain strength and confidence in their body.

Pretend you are Chewie. Practice being a good listener.

Have the child get on their hands and knees like a dog. Give the child commands to practice while they are on all fours.

"Heel!" "Sit!" "Down!" "Stay!"

While child is still on all fours, show them a food item. Have them first, "Check." "Sniff. Sniff." And then if there is gluten in it have them, "Circle. Circle. ALERT!" If it is an item with no gluten they can relax, sit, or lay.

Materials you will need:

Gluten free and non-gluten free items

STEM CHALLENGE

Build your child's problem-solving skills through an open-ended activity.

Now that Chewie has gone home to live with Alice, help build Chewie a dog house out of materials you have around the house.

Materials you will need:

Items from around the house.

ART

Have the child create a pet of their own that helps them do something special for them. The child can draw, sculpt, paint, or build their pet.

Extension: Have the child tell you about their pet and what it does for them. Write down what they say, or if they are able to write, have them write about their pet.

Materials you will need:

Materials for creating a pet. Possibly, paper and crayons or markers, clay, blocks, legos, etc.

Paper and pencil for writing.

AND MORE...

Learn more about Celiac Disease. Make a list of safe foods for someone who has Celiac Disease.

Learn more about service dogs. Make a list of other things service dogs can help people with.

Materials you will need:

Paper and writing tool, books, the internet (with parent help)