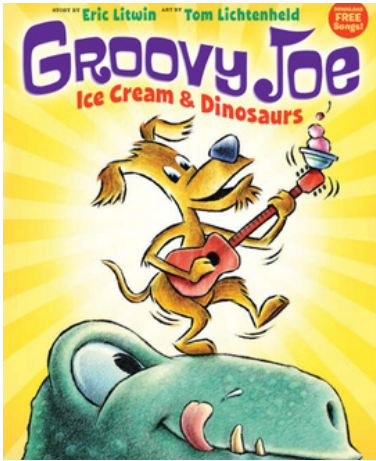


STEAM IMAGINATION GUIDES

Groovy Joe Ice Cream & Dinosaurs BY ERIC LITWIN



CONVERSATION STARTERS

- What is your favorite flavor of ice cream or dessert?
- How would you feel if a dinosaur stomped through your front door?
- How did Groovy Joe feel when he shared his ice cream with the dinosaurs?
- What does Groovy Joe do when there isn't enough ice cream? What would you do if that happened to you?
- How does it feel when you share something with others?
- What do you like to do when you hear your favorite song? Sing, dance, or play an instrument?

STEAM CONNECTION: HOMEMADE ICE CREAM IN A BAG

ELG Standard M.03: Demonstrates awareness of routines, predictable patterns, and attributes that can be measured.

ELG Standard S.01: Demonstrates a basic awareness and use of scientific concepts.

Supplies:

- 1 quart size resealable bag
- 1 gallon size resealable bag
- ½ cup whole milk
- 1 Tablespoon sugar
- ¼ teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 cups ice cubes
- ¼ cup salt (rock salt or table salt)
- Mittens/gloves to protect hands

Discovery Methods:

Invite children to become scientists and make their own ice cream! Show the milk, sugar, and vanilla and explain, “These ingredients will make our ice cream.” Then show the ice and salt and say, “These will help make it cold enough to turn from a liquid into a solid.” Ask, “What do you think will happen when we shake the bags together?”

While children make their ice cream, invite them to talk about what they see and feel. “What’s happening to the ice?” “Does the bag feel colder?” “Why do you think salt is added?” Support children as they notice changes and connect what they see to science ideas such as melting, freezing, and changes in matter.

After enjoying their ice cream, invite them to reflect. “What did we discover about how ice and salt work together?” “What might happen if we used different ingredients or shook longer?” Emphasize that scientists make discoveries by experimenting, observing, and asking questions.

How is this STEAM?

Children observe how ice and salt freeze the milk and use math, engineering, and problem solving when measuring and shaking the bags.



NATURE: GROOVY NATURE ICE CREAM

ELG Standard CA.02: Develops foundational skills that support creative expression through the process, production, and appreciation of visual art forms.

Go on a nature walk and collect small items like leaves, pinecones, sticks, or rocks. In the sandbox, invite children to pretend they are ice cream makers by using the items they collected—along with bowls, dishes, and spoons—to make “Groovy Nature Ice Cream.” Just like Groovy Joe loved sharing, encourage children to share their nature ice cream and toppings with friends. Invite children to come up with creative names for their ice cream flavors.



How is this STEAM?

Children explore science by handling natural materials, use math and engineering to build their nature ice cream, and express creativity by designing and naming their flavors.

CREATIVE ARTS: THE GROOVY DANCE

ELG Standard CA.01: Develops foundational skills to support creative expression through voice, instruments, and objects.



Groovy Joe loves to sing and dance! Visit author Eric Litwin’s website to download Groovy Joe songs, such as *The Groovy Dance*, song #8.



Scan QR Code or Visit:
<https://go.unl.edu/groovyjoe> to download Groovy Joe songs!

Encourage children to sing and dance along to the music, supporting their self-expression and creativity. Add instruments like shakers or drums, or invite children to make up their own dance moves that match the rhythm of the songs. They can even pretend to be dinosaurs or ice cream scoops while they groove!

If you liked this story about Groovy Joe, check out his other two books at your local library. *Groovy Joe: Dance Party Countdown* and *Groovy Joe: If You’re Groovy and You Know It, Hug a Friend*.

How is this STEAM?

Children explore music and movement while they express themselves creatively through dance.

PROJECT TEAM

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