Lesson Plan
Magic Tree House #4: Pirates Past Noon
A Special Education Edition

Learning Treasure Box
A cross Curriculum lesson for math, vocabulary development, and art

SPECIAL NEEDS ACCOMMODATION:
Depending on the ability level of the students you can have students do as little or as much of the building as you want.

Objective:
Students will build a treasure box and fill with vocabulary or math gemstones.

Materials:
Copies of gemstones
Brown construction paper
Yellow construction
Ruler

Created by: Robin Berger, Special Education Teacher, Lincoln Elementary School, Sanger, California
Steps:

The Treasure Chest

1. You will need a 12x18 sheet of brown paper. Have students place the paper vertically on the table. Give each student a ruler. Students will measure 4 inches down from the top of the paper. They will need to measure on both sides.

2. Fold the bottom of the paper to the marks they have just made.

3. Staple both sides after it has been folded. (at least 4 staples per side will close it enough so the gems will not fall out).

4. The 4 inches left at the top will be the lid to the box. You have two options you can just fold it over as is or you can cut each side by measuring 3 inches in and cutting at an angle. (see picture)

5. Use two strips of the yellow construction paper. You will glue these to the top of the box to look like the straps that hold the box shut. Make sure you don’t glue the straps to the top and the bottom of the box.

6. Last cut out a lock from yellow construction paper.

The Gemstones:

7. Make one original copy of the gemstone patterns. (Copy them on to white paper and then write numbers, letters, sight words, pictures or math facts depending on what you are working on.)

8. Make a set of the original gemstones for each student. (You can copy the gemstones on to white paper and have the students color them or copy them on to colored paper, depending on what you need)

9. Now students can place their gemstones in their treasure box.
Variations:

1. Make a class box for students to pull a gemstone out of the box and state the item or solve the problem before they go to recess or lunch.

2. Make two sets of gemstones and use them as a memory game.

3. Use the gemstones to make silly sentences. Place nouns and verbs on the gemstones. Students pull out a gemstone and place it in the correct blank on a sentence frame. Students read the silly sentences to a partner.

4. Place questions on the gemstones that students will have to ask or answer to work on speaking in complete sentence or questions about the chapter of the book they have just read.

5. Gemstones can be different shapes or colors for sorting or patterning activities.

6. Students could measure each gemstone to work on measurement in inches.
Gemstones (enlarge to desired size)