

Welcome to Pollywog At Home, Session 10!
Max's Breakfast by Rosemary Wells

Parts to **(read aloud)** to kids are labeled before the text.
Parts that are **((asides to caregivers))** are indicated with double parenthesis.

(read aloud)

Hi, Pollywog Friends! It is strawberry season! Today we will focus on this yummiest of seasonal treats - and we will make some strawberry art after our story.

Welcome Song –

Let's start off with The Welcome Song:

~ sung to the tune of Rock-A-Bye Baby ~

Welcome to Art Class!
Ready for some fun?
First we sit still,
and quietly listen.
After our screen time,
we'll make something new -
but first we sing this
so we know what to do!

Opening (read aloud)

Strawberry season is one of my favorites! My family likes to go to a local farm and pick our own. I do not know if we will do that or not this year, but I hope that you can get a hold of some strawberries for today's project. If you can't, I will have instructions for doing the project that do not require a strawberry.

Can you think of other foods that are best during certain times of the year? Some foods are much more tasty when they are picked fresh, during their season. Peaches and tomatoes are like this, and I have heard that fresh bananas, in Hawaii, are so good that it is some tourists' favorite part about traveling to the islands. ((Pause to discuss: Does your family make special trips to an orchard to pick your own fruits? This summer may be a good time for this activity – if you're able to find an orchard that is practicing safe cleaning and distancing standards. Do not forget your masks!))

Storytime (read aloud)

I am a fan of Max and Ruby, and if you have not read many stories about them, I encourage you to do so! The Wernersville Public Library is now opening for curbside pick-up, and they are taking tons of care to make sure that materials are clean, and that interactions are contact-free and safe as can be. This might be a good time to order up some books! You can also read books through the library's cooperation with an app called Hoopla. I love it! It also makes audio books, comics, and some video media available to enjoy digitally.

This Max and Ruby story has strawberries in it. That is why I picked it. It is a short story, but the reader this time is a mommy reading to her very young child, and it is extra sweet (like strawberries!). Enjoy this video of the book **Max's Strawberries** by Rosemary Wells. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wj4rxaEox0> ((copy and paste into browser if clicking does not work))

After Story (read aloud)

Ruby is such a good and loving helper to her brother, Max. She can sometimes be a tiny bit bossy, but she is very patient. You can tell she wants to teach him to like his eggs - but all he wanted was those strawberries!

Our Project (read aloud)

Take a good look at this, or your own, strawberry. The little green circle of leaves, at the top, look a little like a hat, a crown, or green hair for the strawberry.

Do you see all the little seeds around the strawberry?

Strawberries are one of the foods where we eat the seeds right up, and there is no trouble because they are so small. You can also carefully cut them off of the berry and plant them to grow more strawberries!

I have a friend who has a new home, and she could not find strawberry plants to plant when she wanted them, so she and her son carefully cut away seeds from some berries and started them in little pots. You can grow a whole strawberry garden from one berry, if you are very careful and patient:



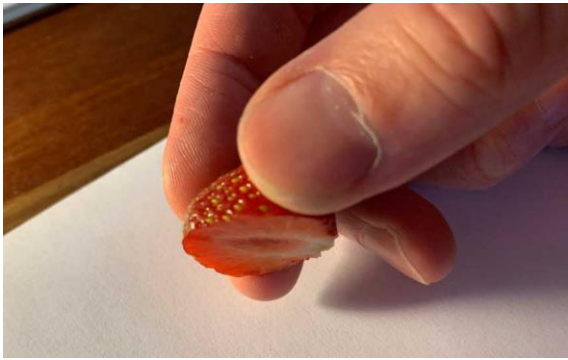
Materials –

- A strawberry - having a few sliced up to snack on, and one (cut in half, technically you only need half of it) to use for our art project, would be perfect. If you do not have strawberries handy, you can do this step with a red crayon, red marker, or red colored pencil.
- A 1/2 Sheet of white printer paper, or other white paper (about 5.5" x 8").
- A green marker (green crayon, or colored pencil, are also okay).
- White glue.
- A half teaspoon of sesame seeds (a brown crayon, marker or colored pencil can be substituted if you do not have sesame seeds handy).

((We will be using materials during Pollywog At Home that families are likely to already have on hand. If I list an item you do not have, see if you can think of a substitute - - if you're really stuck for a solution, feel free to email me for advice! r.schiding.studio@comcast.net))

How To –

1) Get ready with your white piece of paper, and half of a strawberry. You want to hold the strawberry half by the skin of the berry, with the cut juicy side pointed down. Now draw a big strawberry shape right in the middle of your white paper with the berry. It will probably be pretty light – that is okay! A strawberry shape is like a circle with a slightly pointier part at the bottom.



2) Now put lots of little dots of glue on the pink or red berry shape you've made - and place a sesame seed on each dot. The more dots you do, the more realistic your strawberry will look. Did you see that we are using two kinds of food for this project? If you want to snack on a seed or two, that is okay too. This is a job you can do easier than grown-ups, because our hands are too big!

When your picture dries, you will not be able to see the glue as much, so you need to work while it is wet.



3) The last step is to take your green marker and draw the little crown of leaves at the top of the berry. You can look at your berries, or the picture of the strawberry above, for a reminder of how the leaves look.



Now that you know you can use these foods as art supplies, maybe you can think of other things you would like to create with them. *Bonus: Your strawberry picture will smell good for a long time.

And – that is all for today’s Pollywog! See you next time!

As we do Pollywog At Home, you are encouraged to send photos of your Pollywog projects to me at my email address: r.schiding.studio@comcast.net. I will share the work on the Library’s website at the end of our Pollywog lessons. (I do not show children’s faces in photos of their work that I share.)

You and I are lucky to be able to have art and storytime together. Thanks to **Wernersville Public Library!** Libraries are the best! They give us the chance to have wonderful things, without needing to spend extra money! Remember to thank them when you get the chance.

Pollywog at Home is being planned to continue throughout the whole summer. I am excited to be a part of Wernersville Public Library’s Summer Reading Program this year. If you are using the Summer Quest app called READSquared, you can get points towards your summer reading prizes by logging your Pollywog time! Check out all the cool stuff they have planned virtually for you. We can have a great time with the library even while we are staying carefully separate from one another.

Follow the steps with the library file to register that you participated with Pollywog this week to get a prize. We are creating a whole set of rewards, including certificates and gift cards. **((You can receive credit for attending and working through this Pollywog At Home. Please follow this link to a form that will go to the Wernersville Public Library for an attendance prize: <https://forms.gle/SMwjfkQuFnpaLWhH7> – – copy and paste into browser if clicking does not work))**