

An Activity Guide for Mrs. McBloom, Clean Up Your Classroom!

By Kelly DiPucchio

Verbal/Linguistic

- Create your own “To-do List” that highlights all of the extraordinary things you’d like to accomplish in your lifetime. Be creative! S-T-R-E-T-C-H your imagination! Use your noggin! Anything goes!
- Write a creative journal entry that describes a clever way you might clean up your bedroom. Name some unusual items that were discovered in your room.
- Several letters and postcards from famous people can be found in Mrs. McBloom’s classroom. Write your own postcard pretending you’re a famous person in history. Choose from former presidents, inventors, explorers, political leaders, artists, writers, historical figures, or personal heroes. Using first person narrative, explain why and where your famous person is traveling. Illustrate the front of your postcard.
- Write a fun sequel to *Mrs. McBloom, Clean Up Your Classroom!* featuring the wacky adventures of Miss Bumblesprout.

Logical/Mathematic

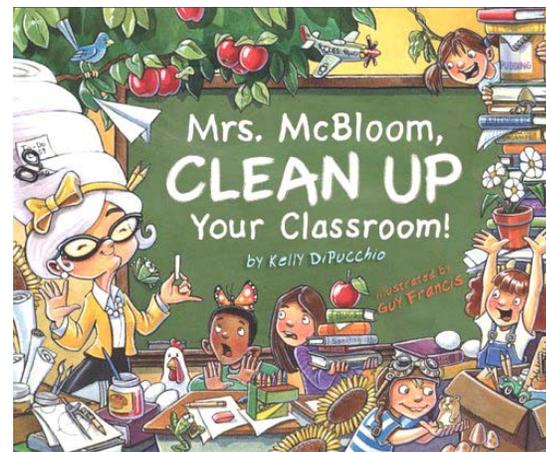
- Calculate how many buffalo nickels are in a quarter. How many are in a dollar? Five dollars? Ten dollars? Okay, smarty-pants—how many buffalo nickels are in \$100?

Geography/Social Studies

- Create a timeline graph (1900 - 2000). Graph the following years: 1913, 1933, 1959, 1969, 1977, 1999. Match and label the following events to the correct year: Franklin D. Roosevelt began his first term as President; Neil Armstrong walked on the moon; the buffalo nickel was introduced; Corky Redman’s chicken pox spread; Elvis Presley died; Alaska and Hawaii became states and the number of stars on the American flag increased from 48 to 50.



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Science

- Mrs. McBloom has a dodo bird living in her classroom even though dodo birds are supposed to be extinct. Write a report on an extinct animal, and include a drawing of what the animal looked like.
- In honor of Mrs. McBloom, grow your own bean or sunflower plant. Measure and record your plant’s growth in a plant journal. Include pencil sketches of your plant’s progress over time.

Spatial/Visual

- Draw a picture of your bedroom. Using magazines, cut out pictures of unusual things that might be found in your room if it became very, very cluttered. Glue the pictures onto the drawing of your bedroom for a one-of-a-kind collage.
- Find out what the famous painting, “The Scream” by Edvard Munch, looks like. Locate the painting in *Mrs. McBloom, Clean Up Your Classroom!* Why might the infamous painting be in Mrs. McBloom’s room instead of a museum? Locate and name another famous painting that was discovered in Mrs. McBloom’s classroom. Now create your own rendering of a famous painting.

For Fun!

Clean up your room or classroom and host the “granddaddy of all yard sales.” Donate the proceeds of your sale to your favorite charity.

The following organizations help support children’s literacy -

First Book—www.firstbook.org

Reading Is Fundamental—www.rif.org

Reach Out and Read— www.reachoutandread.org