

Theodor Seuss Geisel

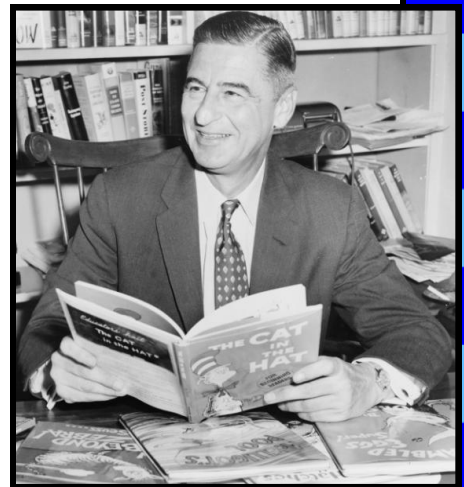


Theodor Seuss Geisel

These easy to make and wear hats will liven up your celebrations of Theodor Geisel's birthday on March 2.

Theodor Seuss Geisel (March 2, 1904-September 24, 1991) was born in Springfield, Massachusetts. He published 46 books for children during his career as an artist, animator, poet, publisher, and cartoonist. His birthday has been designated as the day for the annual "Read Across America" event observed in many schools.

In addition to his famous books, Geisel also worked in advertising, and as a political cartoonist. He won an Academy Award for a film he animated for the US Army during WWII, Design for Death. His pen names include Theo LeSieg, Theodor Geisel, Theophrastus Seuss, Rosetta Stone, and the trademarked name which cannot be mentioned here. He pronounced his middle name as Soice. A friend of his, Alexander Liang, wrote a little poem about this:



You're wrong as the deuce
And you shouldn't rejoice
If you're calling him Seuss.
He pronounces it Soice.

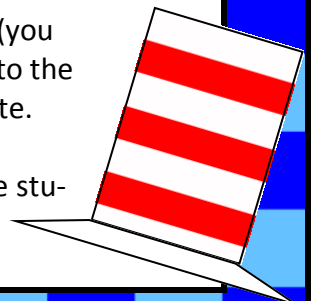
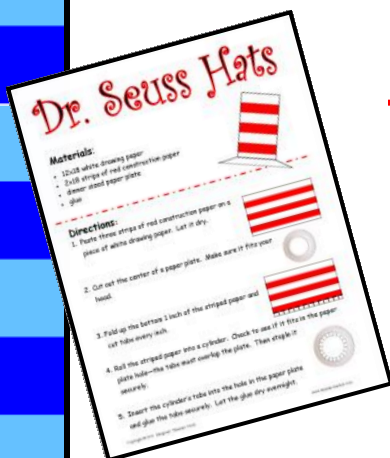
Dr. Seuss. Wikipedia, the Free Encyclopedia. Web: February 6, 2012. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dr._Seuss

Use the following directions with older students as a "Read and Follow Directions" activity.

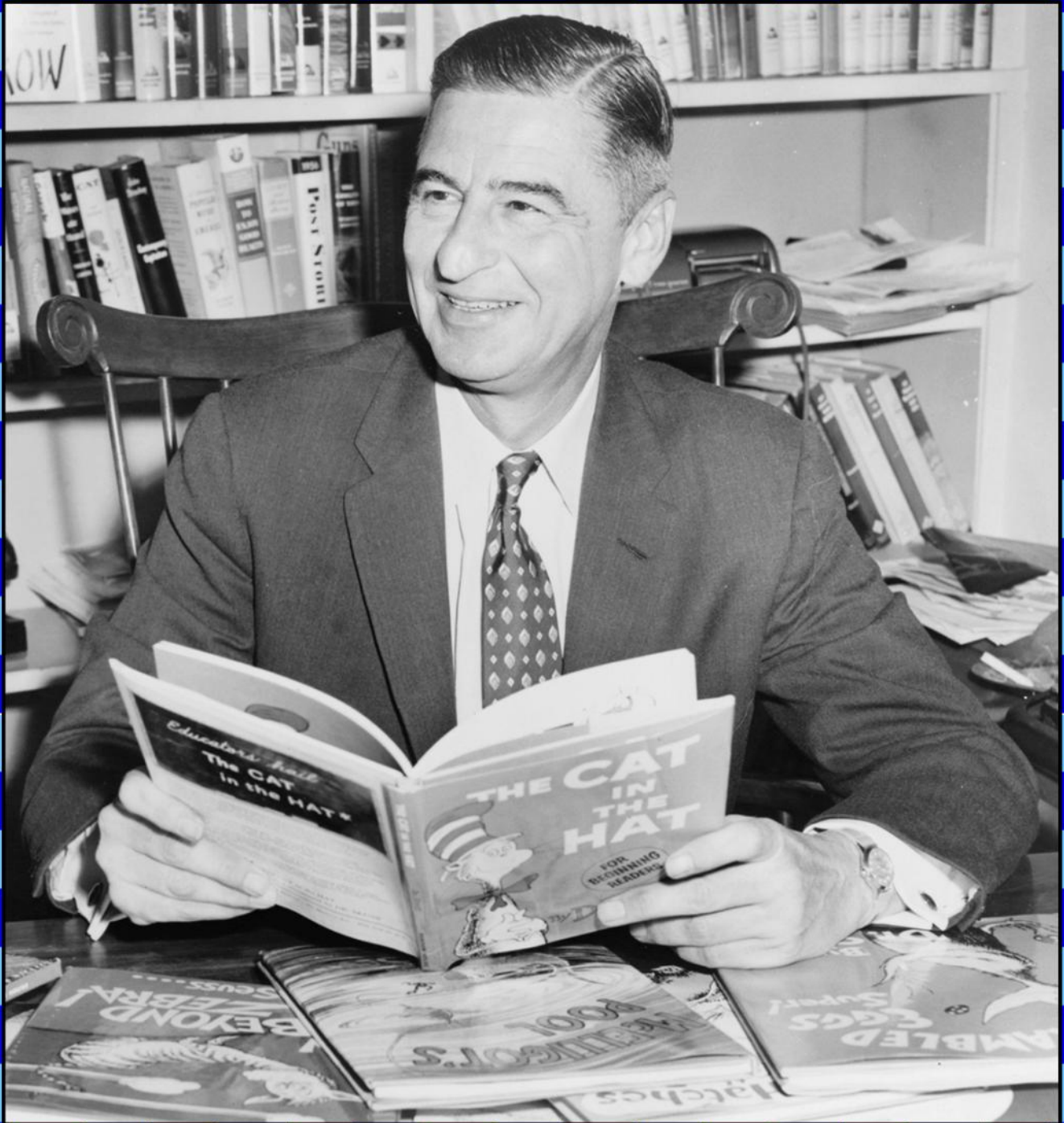
Model directions for younger students, then let them work independently.

Preschoolers can glue their own strips, cut their own tabs (you might want to mark them on the paper), and glue the hat to the plate. They'll need help stapling and cutting the paper plate.

The only tricky part is making sure the hat cylinder fits inside the paper plate. Some students may need extra length if the 18" paper won't wrap around their entire head.



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Theodor Seuss Geisel, 1957: Photo by Al Ravenna of the World Telegram & Sun, via Wikimedia Commons.

Tall Striped Hats

Materials:

- 12x18 white drawing paper (plus an extra piece for larger heads)
- 2x18 strips of red construction paper
- dinner sized round paper plate



Directions:

1. Paste three strips of red construction paper on a piece of white drawing paper. Let it dry.



2. Cut out the center of a paper plate. Make sure it fits your head.



3. Fold up the bottom 1 inch of the striped paper and cut tabs every inch, up to the fold line.



4. Roll the striped paper into a cylinder that fits on your head. Check to see that it fits in the paper plate hole, too—the tabs must overlap the plate. Then staple it securely.

5. Stand the hat tube on your desk with the tabs folded out. Put a drop of glue on each tab. Slide the paper plate (food side down) down the tube and press it onto the tabs. Dry overnight.

