**A Pocket Full Of Kisses** Written by: Audrey Penn & Illustrated By: Barbara Leonard Gibson.

Goal: To reassure children that their parents have enough love for everyone.

This book is a sequel to Penn’s book, *The Kissing Hand*. It’s hard when a new baby sister or brother comes into the picture. This book lets Chester know that Mommy raccoon has enough love for everyone.

Chester raccoon has new baby brother- and the baby brother is taking over his territory. When Chester sees his mother give his baby brother a Kissing Hand – he is overcome with sadness, but Mrs. Raccoon soothes his fears with her own special brand of wisdom.

1. Show the cover of the book and ask the children to read the title.

2. Ask the children what the raccoons are doing on the cover.

3. Read the story stopping from time to time to ask:
   
   a. Why does Chester want to give back his baby brother?
   b. What is a Kissing Hand?
   c. Why did Chester blush?
   d. What made Chester cry and feel very sad?
   e. What is Chester’s brother’s name?
   f. Why did Chester feel his mother didn’t love him anymore?
   g. What did Chester’s mother tell Chester about Kissing Hands that made him feel better?
   h. What was Chester scared that Mrs. Raccoon would run out of?
   i. What story did Mrs. Raccoon tell Chester about the stars?
   j. What did Mrs. Raccoon give to Chester for his pocket?

4. What does The Kissing Hand stand for?

5. How many of you have brothers and sisters?

6. How does it feel to have to share your things with them?

7. Were you scared that you’re Mother/ Father might like them more when they came home?
Activity:

- Use the mask cutout that can be found at:
  http://childcareandbeyond.tripod.com/mask-raccoon.html
  Print it on cardstock and give one to each youth. Have them cut out around the
  mask, cut out white circles for eyes, punch holes where the red marks are and
  thread string to hold mask in place. Have the youth learn the following poem:

  Raccoon Raccoon (make a mask around your eyes with your fingers)
  Up in a tree (both hands raised)
  Raccoon Raccoon, you can't see me. (cover eyes)
  Raccoon Raccoon, I can see you. (one hand on your eyes, one pointing to imaginary
  raccoon.)
  Eating fish and corn and birds eggs too. (imitate eating motions)
  Raccoon Raccoon, Hunting at night. (shade eyes as if squinting in the dark)
  Raccoon Raccoon, Sleeps in the daylight.

- Make kissing hand cookies. Buy a hand shaped cookie cutter. Ready made sugar
dough is the quickest way to make these cookies. Have the youth roll them out,
cut out the hands and place a Hershey’s kiss in the center and bake them. If you
have deployed servicepersons, have the youth place them in a tin with an
explanation of the kissing hand.

- Have the youth trace their hands, cut them out and decorate them, place all the
  hands on a big banner and send kissing hands to your deployed servicepersons
  with an explanation of the kissing hand. Write on the bottom of the banner:
  Here’s a special trick I know. When you’re sad and scared to go. Take this hand I
  have kissed it here. The kiss from me to you. Please hold it dear. Down your hand
  and up your arm, into your heart, the kiss goes on.

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