

Animal Guessing Games

Presenter Tip Sheet

About This Storytime

Children two and three years of age are fascinated by animals and their movements, sounds, tails, and other body parts. By asking children questions about sounds and movements and employing play, you strengthen their narrative skills.

Books

For books to share in this storytime, pick three from the list below, or choose other books in your collection that reflect the theme and are developmentally appropriate for twos and threes. Always share your longest book first. For the second book, choose a participatory book that engages the children, and ask the caregivers to join in. For the third and last story, share a book told through the use of a flannel board or magnetic board, or use a prop or other visual. The examples provided in the storytime program fit these guidelines.

Book Suggestions:

- *Can You Growl Like a Bear?* by John Butler (Peachtree, 2007)
- *The Cow Who Clucked!* by Denise Fleming (Henry Holt, 2006)
- *Dancing Feet!*, by Lindsey Craig (Knopf, 2010)
- *Hello, Day!* by Anita Lobel (Greenwillow, 2008)
- *I Say, You Say Animal Sounds*, by Tad Carpenter (LB Kids, 2012)
- *Who Has This Tail?* by Laura Hulbert (Henry Holt, 2012)
- *Who Lives Here?* by Nicola Davies (Candlewick, 2012)
- *Who Says Woof?* by John Butler (Viking, 2003)
- *Whose Ears?* by Fiona Munro (Price Stern Sloan, 2011) (several others in series)
- *Whose Feet?* by Jeannette Rowe (Little, Brown, 1998) (several others in series)
- *Whose Nose and Toes?* by John Butler (Viking, 2004)

Songs

This storytime includes four songs. The same opening song should be used each week if you are holding a series of storytime programs. Always provide some type of movement or motions to accompany each song, but keep the movements simple. If you use a song that normally has many verses, consider limiting it to two or three verses. Using recorded music during the storytime is fine, but try to sing as many songs as you can with a live voice so that young children can hear the words and the sounds making up each word. Recorded music is usually sung too fast for this purpose. The Very Ready Reading Program includes CDs with all the songs in the storytimes, recorded at an appropriate tempo for this age group. Track numbers for each recording are provided in the song list below and on the storytime program card.

Songs for This Storytime:

- Opening Song: “It’s Time for Storytime” (sung to the tune of “The Farmer in the Dell”) 🎧 2.03 🎵 2.04
- “Animal Sounds” (sung to the tune of “If You’re Happy and You Know It”) 🎧 1.01
- “Cat Goes Fiddle-I-Fee” 🎧 1.11
- “Cows and Chickens” (sung to the tune of “If You’re Happy and You Know It”) 🎧 1.15

Rhymes

This storytime includes four rhymes. The same closing rhyme should be used each week if you are holding a series of storytime programs. The rhymes used in these storytimes have motions that are appropriate for twos and threes, who still have some limited fine motor skills. Younger children may need caregivers’ help with the motions in these rhymes.

Rhymes for This Storytime:

- “Jump or Jiggle”
- “Animal Moves”
- “Move Like an Animal!”
- Closing Rhyme: “Wave Goodbye”

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Activities

This storytime includes an optional theme-related activity, to be completed after the closing rhyme. Below are three activities to choose from. The activity you choose might depend on the size or predominant age of your audience, the amount of time you have to prepare, your space or environment, and the materials needed. The activities are designed with safety and the attention spans and fine motor abilities of twos and threes in mind. Always remember and remind caregivers: **Any activity that involves materials such as paint, sand, string, or small pieces requires close adult supervision.** Although each activity has a learning aspect, the emphasis should be on having fun!

Activity Suggestions:

Creative Dramatics. Have children act out different animals—the way they move and the sounds they make. Examples include: a bear lumbering and growling, a frog hopping and croaking, and a cat creeping and meowing.

Cow Hat. Provide each child with the cow head hat pattern available at Denise Fleming's site: www.denisefleming.com/pages/activitiescowwhoclucked.htm. Have children color the hats.

Animal Headband. Reproduce the patterns of the bear and the lion at www.upstartpromotions.com/upstart/pages/reproducibles. Have children choose an animal and then color it. Then provide each child with a strip of construction paper at least one inch wide. Ask adults to fit the construction paper strips around their children's heads and tape the strips. Staple, glue, or tape the animal head to the construction paper headband. Play jungle music while children act like their animals.



Early Literacy Tips

Throughout each storytime program, you'll find yellow boxes that feature early literacy tips. As you present your program, share these tips with parents and caregivers to help promote the **7 Days • 7 Ways** principles. The tips are designed to easily be infused into the storytime without interrupting the natural flow of the program for children. The Caregiver Tip Sheets you will hand out at the end of each program reiterate the literacy tips you shared during the storytime.