

Anifeiliaid

by Debbie Powell



Dechrau Da
Bookstart
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Developing the story

- **Ra Ra! Snap Snap!** Cover a small cardboard box in bright paper. Print out pictures of each animal in the book and glue one onto each side of the box. Ask the children to sit in a circle and to take turns throwing the 'dice'. When the dice lands, encourage the children to mimic the sound the animal makes.
- **Jungle treasure box.** Add some grass, leaves, rocks, twigs and a small container of water to a cardboard box. Add some plastic jungle animals and allow the children to explore! Talk to the children about the different animals. What do they look like? What do they eat? How do they move?
- **Sensory flash cards.** Print out pictures of some of the animals in the book on to A4 white card. Using double sided sticky tape, cover the other side of each card in different materials to mimic the texture of each animal. You could use coloured feathers for the parrot, black and white faux fur for the panda, sandpaper for the elephant and craft foam card for the crocodile. Ask the children to feel each one and guess which animal is on the other side.

Craft ideas

- **Spaghetti lions.** Ask the children to break pieces of spaghetti in half and at random lengths. Cut a circle out of yellow paper then glue it to a piece of white paper. Cut out some eyes from white paper and draw pupils with a black marker. Finish the lion's face with a nose and mouth. Glue on the spaghetti making lots of random straight lines around the face to create a mane.
- **Cardboard binoculars.** Glue two cardboard tubes together with double sided sticky tape. Then use scissors to cut a small hole on the outside edge of each roll, about half an inch from the top. Cut a length of string then take one end of the string and thread it through the hole. Tie a knot to secure then repeat with the other side of the string. Decorate your binoculars however you choose!

Rhymes

Three Little Monkeys

Three little monkeys swinging from a tree
Teasing Mr Crocodile
'You can't catch me!'
Along came Mr Crocodile
As quietly as can be
And snap! Went the crocodile
Then there were...

Two little monkeys swinging from a tree
Teasing Mr Crocodile
'You can't catch me!'
Along came Mr Crocodile
As quietly as can be
And snap! Went the crocodile
Then there was...

One little monkey swinging from a tree
Teasing Mr Crocodile
'You can't catch me!'
Along came Mr Crocodile
As quietly as can be
And snap! Went the crocodile
Then there were...
No little monkeys swinging from a tree...oh no!

An Elephant

An elephant goes like this and that,
He's terribly big,
And he's terribly fat.
He has no fingers,
And has no toes,
But goodness gracious,
What a long nose!



Bouncing Babies

by Helen Oxenbury



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Developing the story

- **Singing all together.** Ask the children what their favourite songs are and sing along together. Why not play recordings of rhymes and songs too? There are many easily accessible online resources. You could even bring along some instruments for the children to play.
- **Bounce!** Have fun playing ball games. Ask the children to stand in a circle and bounce a ball back and forth to each child, saying the name of the child as they catch the ball. A beach ball is soft enough to work well for this activity.
- **Copy me.** Gather the children together in a circle and ask them to mimic your actions. Run round and round on the spot, jump up and down, fall down to the floor, raise your arms high, stretch your arms low.

Craft ideas

- **Music shakers.** Lay out some empty plastic bottles and a few bowls of items you'll use to fill your shaker. You could use one or more of the following: dried rice, pasta shapes, lentils, buttons, pebbles or bells. Add some of these to your bottle, fasten the lid tightly then get shaking!
- **Bubble painting.** Tip a little bubble mixture into some trays or cups and then add different coloured food colouring to each tray and stir gently. Don't make too many bubbles in the mixture because the bubbles won't work as well if the mixture is too bubbly. Dip a bubble wand into the mixture and blow bubbles onto plain white paper to make colourful patterns.

Rhymes

Bounce the Ball

Bounce the ball, bounce the ball,
On the ground, against the wall.
Bounce it low, bounce it high,
Bounce it right up to the sky!

Bounce the ball, bounce the ball,
On the ground, against the wall.
Bounce it here, bounce it there,
Bounce it outside anywhere!

Three in the Bed

There were three in the bed
And the little one said,
"Roll over! Roll over!"
So they all rolled over
And one fell out.

There were two in the bed
And the little one said,
"Roll over! Roll over!"
So they all rolled over
And one fell out.

There was one in the bed
And the little one said,
"Good night!"



Fox's Socks

by Julia Donaldson



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Developing the story

- **Matching socks.** Cut out sock shapes from different coloured and patterned card making sure there are two of each colour/pattern, then glue each sock shape to a plain piece of card. Spread all the cards out on a flat surface, face down. Ask the children to take it in turns to choose any two cards. Once they make a successful match, the cards can be removed until all the matches have been made. Whilst you play, talk about the different colours, ask the children to identify them and describe the different patterns.
- **Weather watch.** Draw a sun, rain cloud and snowflake onto large separate sheets of paper. Print out images of lots of different items of clothing such as a woolly hat, scarf, shorts, trousers, jumper, t-shirt, coat, wellies, boots, sandals, etc. Talk about different kinds of weather and how we change our clothes when the weather changes. Ask the children to each pick an item of clothing and add it to the appropriate weather poster.
- **Rub a dub dub!** Fill a bowl with warm water and lay out some dolls' clothes, socks or old baby clothes (charity shops are great places to pick these up inexpensively). Encourage the children to have fun splashing and washing the clothes.

Craft ideas

- **Laundry day.** Ask the children to cut out images of clothes from old magazines (younger children will need help with this). Glue two lolly sticks to an A4 sheet of card then cut and glue a length of string to join them. Encourage the children to glue their chosen items on the line.
- **Fox headband.** Cut two long strips of thin orange card and staple together at the ends to form a headband. Cut out two triangles of orange card and two slightly smaller triangles of white card then staple these to the front for the ears.

Rhymes

Down in the Forest

Down in the forest where nobody goes
There's a big red fox washing his clothes
With a rub-a-dub here
And a rub-a-dub there
That's the way he washes his clothes.

Down in the forest where nobody goes
There's a little grey mouse washing her clothes
With a rub-a-dub here
And a rub-a-dub there
That's the way she washes her clothes.

Oh Where, Oh Where, Did My Little Sock Go?

Oh where, oh where, did my little sock go?
Oh where, oh where, can it be?
I've looked up high,
And I've looked down low,
It's nowhere that I can see!



So Cosy

by Lerryn Korda



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Developing the story

- **Hop, wriggle, stomp!** Ask the children to mimic the movements of the animals in the story. Walk around the room and encourage them to follow you whilst you waddle, stroll, climb, hop, plod, wriggle, stomp and patter, just like the animals in the story!
- **So cosy.** Encourage the children to share their bedtime routines. What makes them feel cosy and ready for bed? Do they have a special bedtime story or song? Perhaps a favourite blanket or soft toy? Play 'Simon Says' and mime brushing your teeth, washing your face and pretending to be asleep. You could also sing some of the bedtime song suggestions together.
- **Animal lucky dip.** Collect soft toys, plastic figures or laminated pictures of the animals in the story and put them into a box or a basket. Taking it in turns, let each child choose an animal. Ask the child to guess what sound their animal makes and then encourage the rest of the group to join in.
- **Goat masks.** Paint a paper plate brown and cut out two eye holes from the middle of the plate. Cut out two pointy ears from brown card and glue these to the top of the plate. Draw around each child's hand onto brown card and cut it out. Glue the hand shape to the bottom of the face to form the goat's beard. Cut a round nose from black card and two horns from cream card. Glue the horns and nose to the face. Using sticky tape, fasten a lolly stick onto the back of the chin so that the mask can be held up.

Craft ideas

- **Bear fork painting.** Lay out some white paper, brown paint and a fork for each child. Dip the fork in the paint and make lines on the paper in a circle, working from the middle of the page outwards, this will be the bear's face. Using a paintbrush, add two brown circles and cut some semicircles from pink paper for the ears. Glue these on along with circles of white paper and black paper for the nose and eyes.
- **Mouse finger puppets.** Cut some three-inch circles from paper then cut each circle in half. Use sticky tape to fasten the ends together to form a cone shape. Glue on two pom poms for ears, and two googly eyes. For the tail, cut some pipe cleaners in half then tape one to the inside of the cone. Curl the pipe cleaner so that it will hook onto a finger.

Rhymes

Two Little Puppy Dogs

Two little puppy dogs
Lying in a heap,
Soft and fluffy
And fast asleep.

Along came a pussycat
Creeping near,
"Meow", she cried right in their ear.

Hickory Dickory Dock!

Hickory dickory dock!
The mouse ran up the clock,
The clock struck one,
The mouse ran down,
Hickory, dickory, dock!

