



Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?

by Bill Martin, Jr.

(Paired with *Brown Bear or Black Bear?* by Heather Warren & Robbie Byerly)

Talking about the Book:

1. This story had a lot of animals looking at one another! Let's see how many we can remember without looking back at the story.
2. Now, let's look back at the last pages and name them all with their colors!
3. Bill Martin, Jr. and Eric Carle chose to make some of the animals be colors you wouldn't see in nature. They were using their imaginations! Which ones were colors you probably would not see in real life?

Extending the Book Activities:

- Go on a "Color Hunt" around the house. Choose three colors from the animals in the book and see how many things you can find in those colors. For example, a brown book, a yellow pencil, a red shoe.
- Think of a new animal to add to the story. Draw and color a picture of your new addition!
- Use the pattern and substitute your name for Brown Bear, Brown Bear to make up a new version of the story. For example, "Sam, Sam, what do you see? I see _____ looking at me!"

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Miss Mary Mack by Mary Ann Hoberman

(Paired with *The Elephant's Trunk* by Gina Cline & Robbie Byerly)

Talking about the Book:

1. What a fun story to read! What did you think was the funniest part? Let's read it again, and this time you can join in for all the words that repeat!
2. Why did Miss Mary Mack ask her mother for fifty cents?
3. What did Miss Mary Mack offer the elephant to persuade him to stay? Do you think it worked by the way the story ended? Can you tell me how you know?

Extending the Book Activities:

- Make a list of rhyming pairs from Miss Mary Mack to post on the refrigerator. Make a game out of guessing the rhyme by calling out one word from the pair and letting your child supply the rhyming word, helping as needed.
- The author rhymed "Mack" with "black" and "back." How many other rhymes can you make for Mack? Make up another verse with one of your new rhymes. For example, "Miss Mary Mack, Mack, Mack, hopped around in a sack, sack, sack."

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Big Red Barn by Margaret Wise Brown

(Paired with *Work on the Farm* by Robbie Byerly)

Talking about the Book:

1. There were so many animals in this story! Tell me about your favorite animal. Mine was the _____ because...
2. The author said that the hen had a clutch of eggs. That's a new word! Let's reread that part and look at the picture again to figure out what it means.
3. How do you think the animals felt when it was time to go to sleep at night in the big, red barn? Did it remind you of when you've had fun playing all day and then it's time for bed?

Extending the Book Activities:

- The author used a lot of interesting words in this story to describe the sounds the animals made. She said the donkeys brayed, the pig squealed, and the cow lowed. Let's watch this video clip of animal sounds to hear those animals and more! Watch Animal Sounds for Children <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h8Q-jlHBcXM>
- Make cards for each of the farm animals in the story. Write the name of the animal on one side and draw a picture of it on the other side. Take turns picking a card, finding the animal in the book, and acting out what it's doing on that page.

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Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed

by Eileen Christelow

(Paired with *1 Cookie, 2 Chairs, 3 Pears* by Jane Brocket)

Talking about the Book:

1. Some of the things the five little monkeys did in this story made me think of you when you get ready for bed! How do you think the story reminded me of you? What did the monkeys do that you do, too?
2. How did Eileen Christelow show you that the monkeys hurt themselves in the story? Let's look back at the illustrations to see the clues she gave us.
3. What was the surprise ending to the story? That was really funny, wasn't it?

Extending the Book Activities:

- Have fun acting out the story by making up motions to go with the little monkeys' actions. For example, jump up and down for jumping on the bed, swoop your hands downward for falling down, hold your head in your hands for bumping his head, etc.
- What do you think happened when Mama jumped on her bed? Make up a new ending to the story, and draw a picture to illustrate your ending.

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