

#10063 GOOD NIGHT, GORILLA

WESTON WOODS STUDIOS, 1998
Grade Level: Ps-2
10 mins.

DESCRIPTION

As the zookeeper bids the animals "good night," a little gorilla quietly unlocks each cage. The animals follow the zookeeper home to bed. But what will his wife say? Animated version of the American Library Association Notable Book by Peggy Rathmann.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Subject Area: Science—Life Sciences

- Standard: Understands biological evolution and the diversity of life
 - ♦ Benchmark: Knows that there are similarities and differences in the appearance and behavior of plants and animals (See INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS 1.)

Subject Area: Language Arts—Reading

- Standard: Uses reading skills and strategies to understand and interpret a variety of literary texts
 - ♦ Benchmark: Uses reading skills and strategies to understand a variety of familiar literary passages and texts (e.g., fairy tales, folktales, fiction, nonfiction, legends, fables, myths, poems, nursery rhymes, picture books, predictable books) (See INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS 2 and 4.)

Subject Area: Language Arts—Viewing

- Standard: Uses viewing skills and strategies to understand and interpret visual media
 - ♦ Benchmark: Understands the main idea or message in visual media (e.g., pictures, cartoons, weather reports on television, newspaper photographs, visual narratives) (See INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS 3.)

INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

1. To identify some zoo animals.
2. To enjoy a humorous story.
3. To understand a story told primarily with pictures, not words.
4. To promote the reading of children's literature.

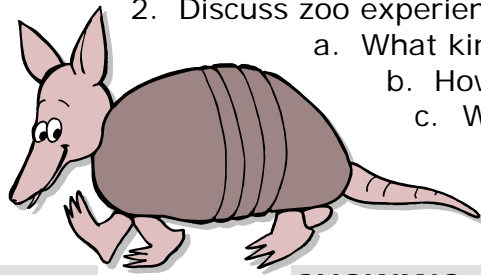


VOCABULARY

- | | | | |
|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------|
| 1. armadillo | 5. good night | 9. laugh | 13. zoo |
| 2. dear | 6. gorilla | 10. lion | |
| 3. elephant | 7. growl | 11. trumpets | |
| 4. giraffe | 8. hyena | 12. yawn | |

BEFORE SHOWING

1. Read the book *Good Night, Gorilla* by Peggy Rathmann. Discuss why the story is funny.



2. Discuss zoo experiences.
 - a. What kinds of animals did you see at the zoo?
 - b. How were the animals cared for?
 - c. What kinds of foods were the different animals eating?
3. Explain what a prank is. Discuss how it feels to fool someone or to be fooled.

AFTER

SHOWING

Discussion Items and Questions

1. Why did the zookeeper go by all of the animal cages and say “good night”?
2. How did the gorilla get the keys to the cages? What did he do with the keys?
3. Where did the gorilla go? What did the mouse do?
4. List in order all of the animals that the gorilla let out of their cages.
5. What noises did some of the animals make?
6. Discuss why the gorilla lets the other animals out of their cages.
7. Why didn't the zookeeper know what was going on?
8. Where did the animals go when they followed the zookeeper?
9. Who awakened when the animals said “good night”? How did you know someone woke up?
10. Where did the zookeeper's wife take the animals?
11. How did the gorilla get back out of the zoo? Where did he go, and what did he do?
12. What do you think happened when the zookeeper's wife awoke the next morning? What do you think happened to the gorilla and the mouse?
13. How may the zookeeper keep the animals in their cages in the future?

Applications and Activities

1. Research and report on zoo animals, including those from the story. Include:
 - a. The ways the animals move.
 - b. The different kinds of foods they eat.
 - c. The natural habitats of the animals.
 - d. The ways they care for their young.
2. Plan and paint a zoo mural on large sheets of poster paper.
3. Write a follow-up story, or sequel, to this story either individually or as a class. Illustrate the story.

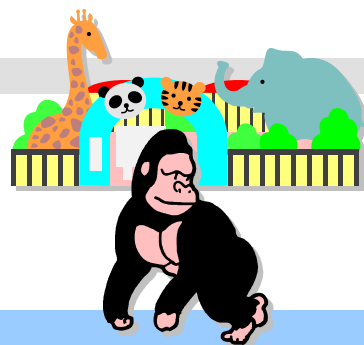
4. Visit a zoo. Make a list of the animals from the video prior to going. Encourage everyone to locate each of those animals.
5. Read other books about pranks.
 - a. *The Crow and Mrs. Gaddy* by Wilson Gage.
 - b. *Look Out, It's April Fools' Day* by Frank Modell.
 - c. *The Boy Who Cried Wolf*, original author unknown.
 - d. *The Wolf Who Cried Boy* by Bob Hartman.
 - e. *Mr. Wolf's Pancakes* by Jan Fearnley.

SUMMARY

One by one, the zookeeper says good night to all the animals in their cages. But tiptoeing right behind him is a precocious little gorilla who manages to unlock each cage. The animals end up following the zookeeper home and discovering that his bedroom makes a fine sleeping place. But what will the zookeeper's wife say when she wakes up?

CMP RELATED RESOURCES

- [Cat & Canary #3219](#)
- [The Day Jimmy's Boa Ate the Wash #3228](#)
- [How Do Dinosaurs Say Good Night? #10067](#)
- [Monty #3271](#)
- [Rosie's Walk #9009](#)



World Wide Web



The following Web sites complement the contents of this guide; they were selected by professionals who have experience in teaching deaf and hard of hearing students. Every effort was made to select accurate, educationally relevant, and "kid safe" sites. However, teachers should preview them before use. The U.S. Department of Education, the National Association of the Deaf, and the Captioned Media Program do not endorse the sites and are not responsible for their content.

- **ABOUT THE AUTHOR** <http://www.peggyrathmann.com/peggyrathmann.html>

The author's official Web site has links to her books and the list of places the author is visiting for book signings.

- **THE ELECTONIC ZOO** <http://netvet.wustl.edu/e-zoo.htm>

This is a site full of links to almost any zoo in the world. Many of these zoo links have photos, Webcams, and information.

- **THE GORILLA FOUNDATION** <http://www.gorilla.org/>

Learn about the project to teach sign language to gorillas. Plenty of pictures and information with links to other gorilla sites.