



There's Something In My Attic

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Activity Guide

THERE'S SOMETHING IN MY ATTIC

Written and illustrated by Mercer Mayer

Ages: 2-10

Themes: Nightmares, Monsters, Imagination, Independence, Courage

Total playing time: Approximately 18 minutes

SUMMARY

A young girl thinks there is a big, noisy nightmare living in the attic above her bedroom. Her parents think nothing of it. She wants to capture the nightmare with her lasso and must be quite brave to do so.

OBJECTIVES

- Students will make ASL - image - text connections.
- Students will learn the value of bravery and independence.
- Students will expand their ASL vocabulary by 20 new signs.

BEFORE VIEWING DISCUSSION

- Introduce the term "nightmare" and ask if they have experienced a nightmare.
- If they have experienced a nightmare what did it look like?
- How did they deal with it?
- Have them brainstorm solutions if they ever do have a nightmare or monster in their bedroom.
- Ask if they have ever been brave?

AFTER VIEWING ACTIVITIES

Story Retention:

- Step through the 10-question quiz independently or in a group gaining consensus on the right answers.
- Have young readers describe their favorite scenes on the video and include 1 or more signs from that scene in their explanation.

- Why was the girl scared of living on a farm?
- What did the girl do that was brave?
- Was the girl able to show her parents the nightmare?

Signing Practice:

- Ask the students what additional signs they learned while watching the story.
- Sit in a circle and have each student demonstrate a sign. Ask the other students to copy and guess what sign it is.

Spelling Practice:

- Simultaneously voice and sign various words from the story or vocabulary list while the students spell the signed word.

Life experience:

- Have the students been brave in the past?
- Does their house have an attic?
- Does anyone live on a farm?

Other:

- Complete all workbook activities

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A CREATURE WAS STIRRING, by Carter Goodrich

A POCKET FOR CORDUROY, by Don Freeman

BIG AL, by Andrew Clements, illustrated by Yoshi

BLUE BURT AND WIGGLES, by Derek Anderson

FIVE LITTLE MONKEYS JUMPING ON THE BED, by Eileen Christelow

GLADYS GOES OUT TO LUNCH, by Derek Anderson

GOODNIGHT MOON, by Margaret Wise Brown. Pictures by Clement Hurd

LITTLE QUACK, by Lauren Thompson, illustrated by Derek Anderson

THE STORY OF FERDINAND, by Munro Leaf, illustrated by Robert Lawson.

THERE'S SOMETHING IN MY ATTIC, by Mercer Mayer

Flash Cards

Directions: Cut out flash cards and have children practice signing the words. They might need to review the DVD vocabulary.

ATTIC

GIVE

BACK

LASSO

BED

LIVE

BRAVE

LOST

CHASE

MOUSE

CITY

NIGHT

DAD

PULLED

FARM

SOMETHING

FLASHLIGHT

STOLE

FLIP ON THE LIGHTS

TEDDY BEAR

Complete the sentences

Directions: Complete the sentences. If the students need help challenge them by demonstrating the proper sign before showing them the written word. All words used are from the vocabulary/flashcard list.

1. I was never afraid of anything when we lived in the _____,
but now we live on a farm.
2. At _____ when the lights go out, I get scared ...
3. ... because I can hear a nightmare in the _____ right
above my head.
4. It doesn't seem to bother mom and _____.
5. I decided to _____ that nightmare and bring it down to
show them.
6. I'd just be _____ and sneak quietly into the attic with my
lasso ready.
7. "Hey," I called. "That's my _____!"
8. "_____ it to me!"
9. So I _____ it.
10. So I _____ it down the hall to my parents' room.

Word Scramble

Directions: Unscramble the words below. To help the students you might consider demonstrating the proper sign before showing the correctly spelled word.

1. ticat: _____

2. cabk: _____

3. earbv: _____

4. sosal: _____

5. asllhhgitf: _____

6. lledup: _____

7. dydet rabe: _____

8. dda: _____

9. leots: _____

10. ghtin: _____

Word Cross

Directions: Find the words hidden in the grids below. The list of words hidden is listed to the left of each grid. The first grid is easier.

ATTIC
BACK
BED
CITY
DAD
FARM
GIVE
LIVE
LOST
STOLE

Y	O	U	Z	B	S	M	R	A	F
K	Y	W	O	A	L	T	C	K	R
A	T	T	I	C	E	I	O	T	N
E	R	W	C	K	T	V	S	L	I
V	B	E	D	Y	E	O	I	R	E
I	C	C	R	D	L	I	B	G	E
L	R	P	U	T	U	U	O	M	X
D	E	W	R	K	O	F	N	L	A
H	A	T	H	Y	I	S	O	W	M
P	G	D	E	V	Y	F	N	K	M

ATTIC
BACK
BED
BRAVE
CHASE
CITY
DAD
FARM
FLASHLIGHT
FLIPONTHELIGHTS
GIVE
LASSO
LIVE
LOST
MOUSE
NIGHT
PULLED
SOMETHING
STOLE
TEDDYBEAR

F	R	B	I	U	O	Q	Q	C	S	I	F	T	X	M
B	L	F	Z	S	E	E	C	O	H	E	L	K	Y	N
T	B	I	S	K	V	V	M	I	K	A	A	H	I	A
Z	I	A	P	I	P	E	I	C	T	A	S	G	T	W
W	L	N	L	O	T	C	H	G	S	Y	H	E	J	F
L	O	S	T	H	N	I	C	J	K	T	L	Z	E	A
Z	D	P	I	Q	T	T	K	Q	C	R	I	S	Q	R
S	H	N	M	R	T	T	H	X	A	R	G	H	S	M
P	G	W	E	Y	R	A	Z	E	B	D	H	G	M	L
R	A	E	B	Y	D	D	E	T	L	U	T	O	O	V
E	L	O	T	S	L	E	O	B	C	I	R	F	U	N
B	R	A	V	E	S	C	L	M	G	B	G	A	S	Q
M	M	V	E	N	Y	B	U	L	E	Z	Z	H	E	C
M	R	R	B	Z	J	F	L	D	U	D	A	D	T	R
P	V	E	E	M	M	M	P	F	G	P	N	T	L	S

Draw by Numbers

