

Learning possibilities

Text: Lester, A 1992, *Imagine*, Allen & Unwin, St Leonards, NSW.

Engage

- Step 1. Gather your child/children for a story using the song, 'If you want to hear a story'.
- Step 2. Encourage your child/children to predict what the story is about from the cover.
- Step 3. Read the story, or watch the video using the link in the Resources box.
- Step 4. Here are some questions to ask your child/children about the story.
1. Tell me some of the jungle animals that you saw. (butterflies, jaguars, parakeets, monkeys)
 2. Which animal did you like best?
 3. Of all the animals you saw, which ones were Australian? (bandicoot, wallaby, wombat, kangaroo)
 4. If you could have a dinosaur as a pet, which one would you choose? Why?

Resources

Song

'If you want to hear a story'

(Tune: 'If you're happy and you know it')

If you want to hear a story, come sit down,

If you want to hear a story, come sit down.

Let's share a great big smile, as we read and talk a while,

It's time to hear a story, come sit down.

Video

Ok let's read 'Imagine' (YouTube, Ok Let's Read)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e9iThnUWr-s>

Respond

Invite your child/children to share their understanding of the meanings of the rare words in the story, e.g. "I wonder what this word means?"

Rare word	Synonym	Rare word	Synonym
drift	float	snort	snuffle, make a loud noise as you breathe
prowl	lie in waiting	gobble	eat quickly
squawk	screech, shriek	graze	eat by cropping the grass
howl	cry, scream, wail	swoop	dive, pounce
glide	float, slide, slither	gnash	grind or clench teeth
rock	shake, move back and forth	stampede	rush in a panic
toboggan	slide	attack	hit or strike something

Extend

- Explore the environmental and geographical locations in this text.
 - Set up small world play with plastic dinosaurs/animals, coloured fabrics, paper, playdough, small stones on a plastic tray or play table.
 - Create an arctic world using coloured blocks of ice (made with an ice cube tray, takeaway or 2 litre ice cream container) on a plastic tray or in a plastic box outside. Add plastic figurines of whales, penguins, walrus, sea birds etc. Hide some objects in ice for your child/children to discover and discuss ways to problem-solve removing figures from the ice. Use the prompt, 'I wonder what we could do?' as a discussion starter.
 - Support your child/children to do an online search on an animal they may be particularly interested in. Explore its habits, diet, movements and sounds.