

Beyond the Book...



Title: A Place Called Kindergarten

Author: Jessica Harper

Illustrator: G. Brian Karas

Summary: This is the exciting story about a boy named Tommy who goes to his first day of Kindergarten and has to leave all his animal friends behind. His animal friends are really worried about him until he finally comes home that afternoon. Tommy then tells them all about what he learned at school that day.



Before Reading...

Talk with your child and ask questions such as:

- What do you think this book will be about? (While showing them the front cover of the book)
- Have you ever been to a farm before? What did you see?
- Can you tell me some of the letters of the alphabet? Which ones?
- What do you think it will be like on your first day of Kindergarten?

During Reading...

As you read ask questions about the story and the pictures:

Why do you think Tommy came down to the barn everyday?

How would you feel if one of your favorite people did not come to visit you when they were supposed to?

Have you ever ridden on a big yellow bus? What was it like?

Have you ever heard how sheep, cows, horses, and hens sound? What did they sound like?

Why did the animals ask for information about Tommy from the dog?

After Reading...

- Find different items in your house that start with the letters of the alphabet. Then have the child identify them or you can identify them for a younger child who doesn't know the alphabet yet.
- Have the child draw a picture of what it would look like if you were telling animal friends about your first day of Kindergarten.
- Pretend with the child to be the different animals and practice what they would sound like.

For additional activities visit www.uwchatt.org or call 423.752.0300.

These activities provided by United Way's Project Ready for School initiative and created by students at The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.