

Beyond the Book...

Title: Good Night, Gorilla

Author: Peggy Rathmann

Summary: As the zoo closes for the evening, Joe, the zookeeper, makes his rounds to make sure all of the zoo animals are safe and secure for the night. He and his wife are in for a surprise when he gets home, crawls into bed, turns out the light, and bids his final 'good night'! Find out what these animals are up to in "Good Night, Gorilla."



Before Reading...

Ask questions, such as these:

- Have you ever been to the zoo?
- What do you think happens at the zoo once everyone goes home?
- If you could have any animal from the zoo as a pet, which one would it be?

During Reading...

- Talk about each animal. Ask questions that would describe the animals. (What color is the gorilla? Is the elephant big or little? What sound does the lion make?)
- Ask your child to make the sounds of each animal or act like the animal (laugh like the hyena, roar like the lion)
- Ask: Can you find the banana in the picture? (There is a banana in each picture which the mouse is dragging around. There is also a balloon which, after the first picture, keeps traveling off into the distance until it is almost too small to see on the last page.)

After Reading...

- Go back through the book and count the number of animals that follow the zookeeper home.
- Pick a favorite animal from the book and look for it in different places – on tv, in other books or magazines, on food packages, etc.
- Plan a trip and visit a real zoo! Talk about the animals you see that you read about in the book.

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

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