

LESSON PLAN

A NIGHT AT THE ZOO

An I Like to Read® Book, Level E

written and illustrated by Kathy Caple

Sam and Pop fall asleep at the zoo! See what happens at the zoo after closing time.

Guided Reading Level: E

Grade Level Equivalent: Grade 1

Interest Level: Pre-K–3

Instructional Standards

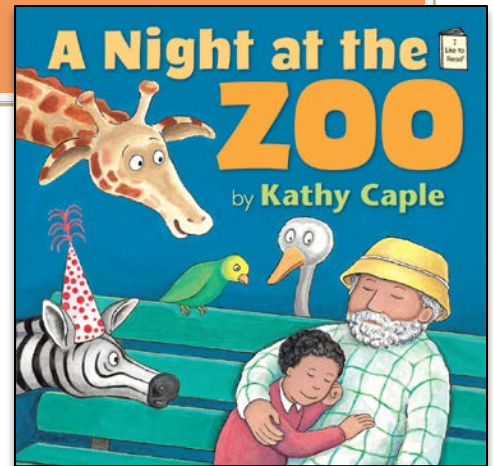
Reading Literature: RL.K.1,2,3,4,5,6,7,10/RL.1.1,2,3,4,5,7

Reading Foundation Skills: RF.K-1.1,2,3,4

Writing: W.K-1.2,3,6,8

Speaking and Listening: SL.K-1.1,2,4,5,6

Language: L.K-1.1,2,4,5,6



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Ages 4–8 • E-book available



Learning Objectives: Read emergent text with purpose and understanding, retell familiar stories including key details, identify characters, settings, and major events in a story, identify cause-and-effect relationships, and identify sound words (onomatopoeia).

BEFORE READING

1. Read the title and discuss the front and back cover illustrations.
2. Who is on the cover? Where are they? What are they doing?
3. Write **zoo** on the board. Brainstorm things you may see at the zoo. Have students share personal examples and chart the responses.
4. Read the name of the author/illustrator. Discuss each role.
5. Take a picture walk through the book. Have students predict what the book is going to be about.
6. Write the vocabulary words on the board: **zoo, ring, popcorn, sleepy, nap, closing, phone, ostrich, parrot, monkey, giraffe, camel, asleep, lost.**
7. Invite students to identify the beginning sound for each word including blends: **sl, cl, ph.**
8. Ask students to find the small word in the words “**sleepy**” and “**asleep.**”
9. Ask students to identify words that begin with a capital letter. Discuss proper nouns/names of characters.
10. What do all of the characters listed have in common?
11. Discuss the text type of the story. Ask students to use evidence from the illustration to explain why this book is fiction.
12. Read the book to find out who, what, when, where, and why (story elements).

DURING READING

1. Read the story aloud. Ask students to follow along as you read.
2. Ask the students how the illustrations and words help us understand what the story is going to be about.
3. Have the students read the book independently or in pairs.
4. Who is this story mostly about (main characters)?
5. Where and when does the story take place (setting)?



6. Why does Pop use his phone at the zoo?
7. What is happening? Why do Sam and Pop take a nap?
8. Find the repeated words. Why does the author repeat “ring” many times?
9. What is the problem in the story?
10. What caused the problem? How do Sam and Pop get locked in the zoo?
11. How do the illustrations help you understand what is happening?
12. How do the words and illustrations add humor to the story?
13. What do the animals do after the zoo closes?
14. Why do you think Ostrich takes the phone? Why does Monkey drop the phone?
15. What event wakes Sam and Pop from their nap? How do they get out of the zoo?
16. What challenge does Pop have at the end of the story?
17. How is the problem resolved?
18. How does the story end?

AFTER READING

1. Retell the story in your own words.
2. Find pictures in the story that made you laugh. Explain why they are funny.
3. Would you ever fall asleep at the zoo?
4. What are your favorite animals at the zoo?
5. Find the page where Pop and Sam are sleeping and the animals are running free. Explain what could really happen at a zoo and what is fantasy.
6. Discuss what happens to the phone after Ostrich takes it.
7. Do you think *A Night at the Zoo* is a good title? Explain.
8. Why are Pop and Sam surprised at the end of the story?
9. Look at the 7 pictures on the last page. Explain each.
10. Fill in the blanks with words from the story.
 - Sam and Pop went to the ____.
 - They ate _____ and got _____.
 - Pop and Sam fell _____.
 - The zoo was _____.
 - Ostrich took Pop’s _____.
 - The phone went ____, ____, ____!
 - List the animal names from the story:
_____, _____, _____, _____, _____
 - _____ gave Pop his phone.
11. Complete the sentences. Why did it happen?
 - Pop took out his phone because _____.
 - Sam’s mom called because _____.
 - Sam and Pop got popcorn because _____.
 - Sam and Pop fell asleep because _____.
 - Sam and Pop were locked in the zoo because _____.
 - Pop had funny pictures on his phone because _____.
 - Giraffe kicked Camel because _____.
 - Camel was mad so he _____.
 - Sam and Pop woke up because _____.
 - The man from the zoo came because _____.
12. What does the author mean when she writes the following words in the story? Go back to the book and explain. **ring, bop, Zzzz, bam, eek, yow**
13. Think of 5 other sound words that are not in the story. Ex: SPLAT!
14. Draw a picture using sound words to describe what is happening.

