

LEARNING TIME

Shoo You Crocodile! by Katrina Germein & Tom Jellett

Oh no! The museum's crocodile has escaped and it's chasing all the children! What will make it go away? Let's try making LOTS of noise. A fun, raucous romp for imaginative young readers. This book also teaches young readers about working together, being brave, facing challenges and problem solving.



Key Message for Parents | Children learn language by listening to it and using it.

Share ideas and information with parents and care-givers about the importance of spending time together every day.

- Talking and reading with children in the early years has a significant effect on later language skills.
- Babies and children need talking to be directed at them and with them, not simply hearing people talk.
- Children are active learners who learn in playful ways

Australian Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) | Outcome 5: Children are effective communicators

Educators can support and scaffold children's learning through play-based opportunities to explore the world around them. Through play children can

- interact verbally and non-verbally with others for a range of purposes
- engage with a range of texts and gain meaning from these texts
- begin to understand how symbols and pattern systems work.

Welcome

Ask carers to write nametags for themselves and their children.

Welcome everyone, introduce yourself, remind adults to turn their mobile phones off and that there will be time for adults to chat after the story and songs.

Welcome Song (or your preferred song)

Have the words available as a handout or written on a board or butcher's paper for the adults to read and join in.

Good Morning

Good morning to you

Good morning to you

Good morning everybody

and welcome to you!



Song – Never Smile at a Crocodile

Never smile at a crocodile
No, you can't get friendly with a crocodile
Don't be taken in by his welcome grin
He's imagining how well you'd fit within his skin

Never smile at a crocodile
Never tip your hat and stop to talk awhile
Never run, walk away, say good-night, not good-day
Clear the aisle but never smile at Mister Crocodile

You may very well be well bred
Lots of etiquette in your head
But there's always some special case, time or place
To forget etiquette

For instance
Never smile at a crocodile
No, you can't get friendly with a crocodile
Don't be taken in by his welcome grin
He's imagining how well you'd fit within his skin

Never smile at a crocodile
Never dip your hat and stop to talk awhile
Never run, walk away, say good-night, not good-day
Clear the aisle but never smile at Mister Crocodile

Welcome everyone! – You are going to love today's story; it is called Shoo You Crocodile!

Before Reading

Show the children the cover of the book and ask them what they can see.

- What do they think is happening?
- What do they think will happen next?
- What do they notice about the crocodile?
- The words in the title are fun to say. Do they know what the word “Shoo” means? Read the title to the children and then encourage them to join in and say it together a couple of times.

During Reading

Begin reading the story and pause on the first page to ask the children about where they think the story is set. Allow the children to offer suggestions and share a little of what they know about museums. Some children may even notice that it's based on the South Australian Museum in Adelaide.

As you read the story draw attention to the character's faces and ask children how they think the characters are feeling. You may also like to spot and name some of the animals as you read the book.

Onomatopoeia. Join in and get loud! This book is a performance story, meaning readers can all join in with the fun. As you come across words like CHOMP, STOMP, ROAR, CLOMP, BANG and SHOO encourage the audience to join in. As well as using their voices you might like to include other body percussion such as stamping and clapping.

After Reading

CRAFT – Peg Crocodiles

Turn a wooden clothes peg into a snappy crocodile. Colour the peg with a green marker. To make the eyes draw two dots with a black marker on top of the peg at the end (near where the peg opens) for a nose. Stick two googly eyes above the nose or draw eyes with black markers. The remaining long, top part of the peg is the tail. Draw scaly marking on the tail with the black marker or paste on a wiggly green pipe cleaner piece. Your crocodile is complete. Chomp! Chomp!

DRAMA – Crocodile Masks

Cut and colour this crocodile mask. You're a crocodile now!

<https://www.pinterest.com.au/pin/124904589653009466/>

WHAT'S NEXT?

Draw the children's attention to the new story starting at the end of the book. A dinosaur has escaped from the museum! Support the children to create a story about what happens next. This can be a fun oral activity, or the story can be scribed and later illustrated by the children.

DISCUSSION

Ask the children to share a time when they remember being brave

Ask the children to talk about a time when they've had to cooperate with others to solve a problem.

Song – Row Row Row Your Boat

Sit facing a partner or carer and hold hands so you can rock in time to the song.

Row, row, row your boat
Gently down the stream
Merrily merrily, merrily, merrily
Life is but a dream

Row, row, row your boat
Gently down the stream
If you see a crocodile
Don't' forget to scream
Ahh!!!!

Extension Activities

- Make an egg carton craft crocodile. There are lots of examples of these online.
- Act out the story using puppets, figurines or actors.
- Plan a visit to your local museum!
- Explore non-fiction books - There are many books about crocodiles and other reptiles with engaging images. Look at the pictures of these books with your child and talk about the animal's features. Let your child set the pace and choose which pages to look at. It's okay to skip pages or start in the middle. You don't need to read out all the information on the page.

Song – Five Little Monkeys

Five little monkeys swinging in the tree
teasing Mrs Crocodile can't catch me....can't catch me
along came Mrs Crocodile quiet as can be
and snapped that monkey out that tree

Four little monkeys swinging in the tree
teasing Mrs Crocodile can't catch me....can't catch me
along came Mrs Crocodile quiet as can be
and snapped that monkey out that tree

Three little monkeys swinging in the tree
teasing Mrs Crocodile can't catch me....can't catch me
along came Mrs Crocodile quiet as can be
and snapped that monkey out that tree

Two little monkeys swinging in the tree
teasing Mrs Crocodile can't catch me....can't catch me
along came Mrs Crocodile quiet as can be
and snapped that monkey out that tree
One little monkey swinging in the tree
teasing Mrs Crocodile can't catch me....can't catch me
along came Mrs Crocodile quiet as can be
and snapped that monkey out that tree
No more monkeys swinging in the tree!

Find lots more fun ideas on the Shoo You Crocodile Pinterest Board here:

<https://www.pinterest.com.au/KatrinaGermein/shoo-you-crocodile-by-katrina-germein-tom-jellett/>

STEM FOCUS

Story Sound Scape - Experimenting with making music and sounds

- Brainstorm a list of the 'noisy' words in the book such as CHOMP, STOMP, ROAR, CLOMP, BANG. Have a range of recycled and household resources available for the children such as pots and pans, newspaper, chopsticks, plastic bottles half filled with rice etc.
- Consider each 'noisy' word and support children to create a sound with their body or an item to match the word. E.g. Clapping hands, banging pots, stamping feet, scrunching paper.
- Talk about loud and soft sounds and fast and slow beats. Ask children scientific question such as, "What do you think will happen if...?" "What else could you try?" Is this the same or different?" "Which one is louder?" "Can you make it faster?"
- Write down the word and action then read the story again, creating the agreed sound for each noisy word.
- Invite others to a performance if you wish or make a film to share with others.

Goodbye

Conclude the session with some suggestions of books that parents might want to share with their children. The Little Big Book Club suggests the following books to support learning in this area. If your library has copies, make them available for families to borrow or include them in your story time session.

For some more stories to share, we recommend the following titles:

- **A Crocodile in the Family** by Kitty Black and Daron Parton
- **Crocodile River** by Diana Lawrenson & Danny Snell
- **Never Smile at a Crocodile** by Jack Lawrence and Frank Churchill, illustrated by Shane Devries
- **The Wide-Mouthed Frog: A pop-up** book by Keith Faulkner and Jonathan Lambert

Goodbye Song

Depending on the size of your group, you may wish to insert each child's name in the place of 'you' as it develops a more personal relationship between yourself, the child and the family.

Sung to the tune of (*Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush*) or your choice.

Goodbye

This is the way we say goodbye (wave) say goodbye, say goodbye

This is the way we say goodbye to all our library friends (or) (to our friend.....)!

