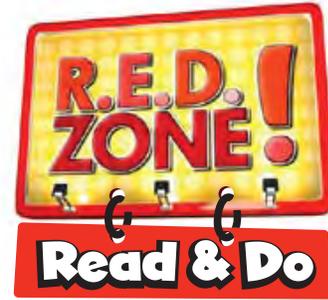


When We Go Camping

by Margriet Ruurs

A beautifully illustrated picture book about a family's camping experience. Each page depicts a woodland animal along with a legend of each.



Read

Before:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow that with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, *Who can tell me what things you have done while camping?* Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an "I wonder" statement based on the cover illustration.

- I wonder if the Moose really came that close to their camp?

During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions, and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end. Point out "rare words" (e.g., those words that are not commonly used in every day conversation) and help the children relate the meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

Rare Words in *When We Go Camping*

- camping: living outdoors in a tent
- snuggle: to get into a comfortable, cozy position, especially close to another person
- peek: to take a quick look at something, especially secretly
- slip: to move smoothly with a sliding motion
- explore: to travel to a place to discover what it is like or what is there
- shore: the land that runs along the edge of the ocean or lake
- loons: a black-and-white fish eating bird with a short tail, webbed feet and a laughing call
- paddles: a short oar with a flat blade at one or both ends used to guide a canoe or small boat
- trout: a freshwater fish that has a speckled body, small scales, and soft fins
- hoist: to raise or lift somebody or something up with a mechanical device
- lodge: a cabin or temporary home
- hike: a long walk in the countryside, usually for fun
- grazing: grass and green plants for animals
- disturb: to spoil the quietness
- surface: outer part
- croaking: a rough, low-pitched sound, the cry of a frog
- squish: to squeeze or crush something soft
- saskatoons: a sweet purplish black fruit
- blackberries: a small sweet cluster of round dark purple fruit
- musky: an odd odor
- shadow: dark shape of something in light
- glides: to move in a smooth way
- sparks: a small piece of a burning substance
- chorus: a large group of singers

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- When you go camping, do you wake up early or late?
- What type of bedding can you use on a camping trip?
- How many of you have gone canoeing or boating? How do you steer the boat?
- What things do you do when you arrive at your campsite? Set up the tent? Gather firewood?
- What did the children see while exploring and hiking?
- What did the children pick on their camping trip? Have you picked berries? Can you name them?
- What kinds of fish have you caught while camping?
- What are some things you can do around the campfire at night? Tell stories? Sing? Roast Marshmallows?
- Can you name the different sounds you may hear after dark?



Do

Find the Woodland Animals

Have the children find the woodland animals on each page of this book. Then have them draw a picture of their very own campsite including different animals they have seen while on their camping adventure.