

Joshua's Night Whispers

by Angela Johnson

Pastel watercolor illustrations depict the warm, loving relationship in an African American family.



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, *What are some noises that you hear only at night?* 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 that bunny makes it easier for that little boy to go to sleep?

During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations and ask questions.

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- How many of you have your own room?
- If you share a room, who do you share with?
- Do you ever open the windows at night while you sleep?
- What are some of the noises that you hear outside when you are in your room?
- Do you have animals in the house that make noises during the night?
- Does the wind make funny noises during the night?
- What made Joshua feel safe? Why?

Do

Sound Painting

Tape record a rain, wind or thunderstorm. Provide gray, black or white paint and ask the children to paint how they feel while listening to the tape recording. Discuss all the paintings.

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