

The Eensy Weensy Spider Freaks Out!

by Troy Cummings

A witty spin-off to a classic children's nursery rhyme. Retro illustrations, rhythmic text and a confidence building storyline will surely make this book a favorite in your reading corner.



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, *How many of you know of the song The Eensy Weensy Spider?* 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 what will happen to the spider after she falls down the water spout?

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 *The Eensy Weensy Spider Freaks Out!*

- freaked out: an impulse, something somebody suddenly does for no real reason
- gutter: a metal or plastic channel attached to the roof for carrying away rainwater
- embarrassed: painfully self-conscious, ashamed or humiliated
- inch: unit of length, small amount
- fireplug: same as fire hydrant
- snout: animal's nose
- scurried: move at a hurried pace, usually with small fast steps
- scoping: to look at or examine something
- wrecking crane: a piece of equipment used to destroy something completely

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- Why did Eensy freak out?
- Who came to help her get over her fear of climbing?
- What was the first thing Eensy tried climbing?
- What other things did she climb?
- What was the last thing she climbed? Where did she go?

Do

"All About Me" Poster

You will need: large piece of poster board paper (one for each child), scissors, crayons/markers, glue glitter, photographs and magazines.

Before:

Contact all families and ask them to send pictures of their child (ren) and families to be used for the posters. If families are unable to send pictures, you can make black and white photocopies of pictures or take your own pictures of the children. Every child should have at least one picture of themselves to add to their poster.

Directions:

Give each child a piece of poster board with the title "All About Me" written on it. Have them look through magazines and cut out things that represent them, or of things they like to do. Next, have them glue the magazine pictures and personal photos to their poster. Then have the children draw pictures and decorate their posters. Finally, dictate short stories, family details or other information that the children want to add to their poster.

Extra Activities:

If desired, allow the children enough time to present their poster to their friends. Model good behavior. For example: *I love your family picture; I didn't know you liked soccer, which is awesome; I love the colors you chose to use.* When children talk about themselves and their families, they begin to bond with their classmates and begin to feel better about themselves.

If desired, display the posters around the classroom and invite parents to come and view the artwork.