

I Love You, Stinky Face

by Lisa McCourt

In this tender story, a child imagines himself as various uncuddly creatures while his mother promises that no matter how toothy, slimy, or stinky, she will always love him.



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, *This little boy thinks up all kinds of smelly, scary and crazy animals to be because he wonders if he was those things, would his mama still love him.* 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 why these animals are wearing striped pajamas?

During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations and ask questions. Spend time talking about how mama finds something good to love about each nasty monster/animal. 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 *I Love You, Stinky Face*

- enormous: unusually large in size
- ferocious: very fierce and mean
- razor-sharp: extremely sharp
- mended: to sew together
- slimy: wet and slick
- seaweed: stringy plants that grow in the ocean
- alien: a being from another planet
- Bon appétit: French for good eating/good food
- Cyclops: a mythological one-eyed giant
- gigantic: very large and tall
- droopier: to hang or bend down limply

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- Who can show me what a big scary ape acts like?
- Do you think sweet-smelling powder would make a skunk smell better? What else could be used?
- How big do you think an alligator's teeth really are? Bigger than a quarter?
- What else could a dinosaur use for sheets that wouldn't tear and rip?
- What other animals can you think of that feel slimy?
- What would be the best thing about having one eyeball? The worst?
- Do you think your mama would love you if you were a big scary ape or a cyclops?

Do

Hand Print Hanging

Prepare thick tempera paint and pour a small amount into a shallow pan. Give each child a coordinating piece of construction paper and have them press their hand into the paint and then onto the paper. Provide a bucket of warm, soapy water for easy clean up. Dry the hand prints and then add the poem, or another of your choice, below for a sweet Mother's Day gift.

"This is the hand
You used to hold
When I was only
xx years old."