

Rooster's Off to See the World

by Eric Carle

A simple introduction to the meaning of numbers and sets as a rooster, on his way to see the world, is joined by fourteen animals along the way.



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 sound a rooster makes?* 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 roosters crow when the sun comes up?

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 *Rooster's Off to See the World*

- rooster: an adult male of a domestic fowl
- travel: to go on a journey to a particular place
- lonely: feeling sad through being without friends or company
- idea: a personal opinion or belief
- purred: a soft low murmuring noise that a cat makes when it seems to be content
- wandered: to move from place to place, without a known destination
- company: the state of being with other people
- crawling: to move slowly close to the ground
- snapped: to reply in anger or irritation
- brook: a small freshwater stream
- pleaded: a serious and passionate request
- delighted: great enjoyment and pleasure
- horizon: place where earth meets sky
- complained: to express discontent or unhappiness about a situation
- fireflies: a beetle that produces light
- shelter: a structure that protects or covers
- silence: the absence or lack of noise
- polite: showing or possessing good manners or common courtesy
- journey: a trip from one place to another
- moon: Earth's only natural satellite
- perch: a place for a bird to land or rest
- dream: a sequence of images to the mind of somebody who is sleeping

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- When did the rooster decide he wanted to travel?
- Why was he lonely?
- Can you tell me how many cats he met along the road? What kind of noise do cats make when they are content?
- Can you tell me how many frogs he met along the road? What kind of noise do frogs make? How do they walk?
- Can you tell me how many turtles they met along the road? Do turtles move fast or slow?
- Can you tell me how many fish were swimming in the brook?
- When the sun went down, what did they have for dinner? Where did they sleep?
- When there was no food or shelter, where did the fish go? Turtles? Frogs? Cats? Rooster?
- What did the rooster dream about when he got back home?



Do

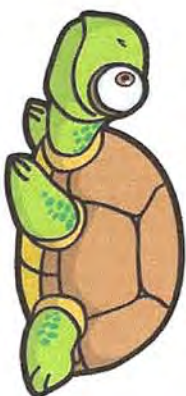
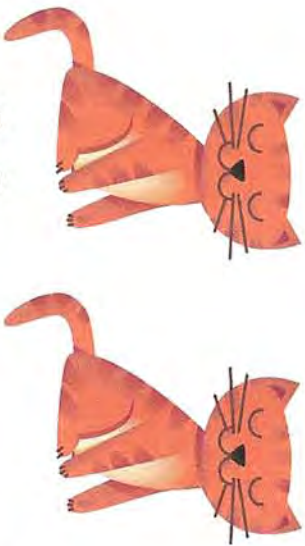
Sequence Activity

Make enough copies of the attached *Rooster's Off to See the World Animal Figures* for as many children as you need (one animal figure per child). Ask the children if they remember the sequence in which the rooster met up with the animals. Tell them that you will ask who the rooster met first and those children holding that animal will stand up and the rest of the children will stay seated. The cats were first so all the children with the cat animal figure need to stand up and gather in a group until all children are standing up in five groups (one group for each animal – include the rooster!).

My Name: _____

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Animal Figures



"Children are made readers on the laps of their parents."
-Emilie Barthelemy

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