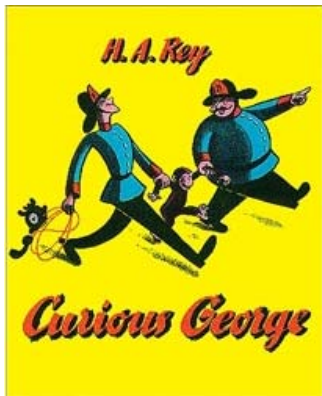




Creating Extended Activities for Fiction Book Read Alouds

You can use almost any classic fiction children's book for a read aloud with your students. Use the tips below to think outside the box and make reading an engaging and fun activity!



1. Familiarize yourself with the book and think creatively!

We realize you have little time for preparation, but doing a full read-through of the book will help prepare you for a great read aloud and get you thinking about extended activities to get your kids excited and engaged.

After reading *Curious George*, here are a few ideas our team had based on the story:

(Pages 4-7) George was curious about the big yellow hat.

Have children paint standard paper grocery bags bright yellow. When dry, provide scissors, tape, staplers, etc. to let them create oversized hats.

(Pages 36-37) George was on the run and escaped by walking over telephone wires.

Tape long pieces of string or yarn to the floor for children to practice "tightrope" walking. Have two or more lines next to each other to have a contest.

(After reading entire book) Have student's complete a three stanza poem, with the first line of each stanza beginning with: "If I were a monkey..." *Example:*

*If I were a monkey
so cuddly and sweet
I'd eat banana ice cream
each night for a treat*

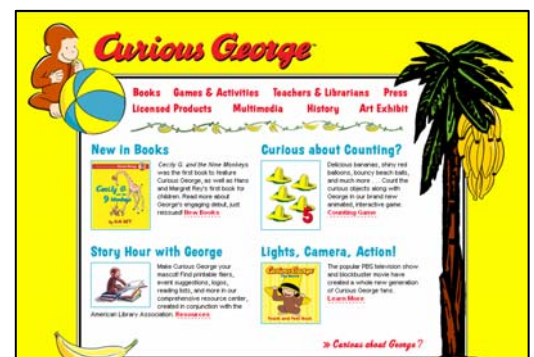
2. Use online resources.

Do a search in Google or Yahoo on the book title plus the words "lesson plan." When we searched on *Curious George* we found a tremendous amount of information, including an entire website devoted to *Curious George* games and activities.

Read through the links you find for ideas on creating fun activities for your kids related to the book you are reading.

Don't forget to search on the book's author, who may have a website devoted to information on the book.

Scholastic's website also provides great resources for many children's books.



3. Have a book talk.

Even if you have limited time and resources for planning extended activities, you can always plan to have a lively book talk after reading a book. In addition to asking questions about the story, have students work in groups to conduct short skits on pages you assign. Talk about the theme of the book. What does it mean to be "curious?" Have the group talk about things they may be curious about. Have fun and make up new "adventures" that happen when George is curious.