

ANDY AND THE LION

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By James Daugherty

Themes: Animals, Make Believe, Fables, Friendship

Grade Level: K-2

Running time: 10 minutes, Iconographic

SUMMARY

ANDY AND THE LION is the story of a boy named Andy who searches the library for a book about lions. Andy is so interested in lions that he cannot put the book down. Before bedtime, Andy's grandfather tells him an amazing lion story and Andy dreams about lions all night long.

When Andy wakes the next day and leaves for school, he meets a lion along the way. The lion has a thorn stuck in its paw and Andy manages to pull it out. Andy and the lion part as friends. When a circus comes to Andy's town, Andy goes, of course, hoping to catch the lion act. When one of the lions jumps out of its cage and leaps toward the audience, right in Andy's path, Andy feels his days are numbered. But lo and behold! Andy and the lion recognize one another! This is the same lion that Andy helped by removing the thorn from its paw!

Andy and the lion rejoice and Andy protects the lion from the on-coming crowd of people who are prepared to capture it. The next day Andy and the lion lead the townspeople in a parade along Main Street and Andy is awarded a medal for bravery. The story ends with Andy returning the book about lions to the library, pulling the lion on a leash behind him.

OBJECTIVES

- Children will learn about lions and their behavior.
- Children will explore the concepts of gratitude and friendship.
- Children will learn about the value of books.

BEFORE VIEWING ACTIVITIES

Share the book ANDY AND THE LION with children. Talk with children about lions. Explain that lions are members of the cat family and that they have been known as the "king of beasts." Tell children that lions still roam the wide open African plains but that they are good targets for hunters. Have children discuss those places where they may have seen lions (zoos, circuses) and describe their physical characteristics.

Discuss children's favorite books. Ask:

- Where do you go to find your favorite books?
- What is it about your favorite stories that interests you?
- Are your favorite stories about things that are real or imaginary?
- What other ways can you find out about the things you discovered in the books?
- Do you think your friends would like the books that are special to you as much as you do? Why? Why not?

AFTER VIEWING ACTIVITIES

Visit a library with children. Before your visit, have children determine what they are most interested in knowing about. Help children find books on these subjects during your library visit. When you return to the classroom,

have children make their own books by stapling pieces of manila construction paper together. Have children dictate their own stories to you and print them in children's books. Allow children to create illustrations to accompany their stories and display them in the classroom for all to enjoy.

Talk with children about the gratitude the lion felt for Andy after Andy removed the thorn from its foot and the friendship that existed between Andy and the lion. Ask:

- Who are your special friends?
- How do you feel about them? Why?

Supply paper plates, construction paper, yarn, crayons, scissors and paste that children can use to create paper plate faces that represent their special friends. When children have completed the project, have them share their creations with their classmates and describe the reasons why their friends are special to them.

Help children write a simple fable about a larger animal and a smaller animal. Explain that a fable is a story in which animals speak. Often a fable has a message.

Other videos from Weston Woods about animal fables or friendship fables include:

DOCTOR DE SOTO by William Steig

THE BEAST OF MONSIEUR RACINE by Tomi Ungerer

THE CATERPILLAR AND THE POLLIWOG by Jack Kent

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