

THE CAMEL WHO TOOK A WALK

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By Jack Tworkow

Themes: Humor/Forest Animals

Grade Level: K-2

Running time: 6 minutes, iconographic

SUMMARY

THE CAMEL WHO TOOK A WALK takes place during a very quiet time, at that exact moment when nighttime ends and daytime begins. A sleepy tiger opens one eye ever so slightly, and can see just enough to notice that something was moving in the forest. Soon, the tiger realizes that this “something” is a beautiful camel and decides to pounce on it when it approaches. A monkey in a tree above the tiger knows what the tiger is thinking about and decides to drop a coconut on the tiger’s head when the camel appears. Meanwhile the camel keeps coming closer. A squirrel, knowing what the monkey is thinking about, decides to bite the monkey’s tail when it is about to drop the coconut. Meanwhile, the camel keeps coming closer. A bird, knowing what the squirrel is thinking about, decides to pounce on the squirrel’s head when it is ready to bite the monkey’s tail. Meanwhile, the camel keeps coming closer.

The suspense builds until, finally, the camel stops and decides to go back to where it came from. The creatures of the forest chatter away, wondering what happened. Much to the amazement of the surprised viewer, and the forest animals, nothing happened! The camel simply decided to walk back the same way it had come!

OBJECTIVES

- Children will be introduced to animals.
- Children will learn to appreciate humor and suspense in a story.
- Children will learn to follow a sequence of events.

BEFORE VIEWING ACTIVITIES

Share the book, THE CAMEL WHO TOOK A WALK, with children.

Talk with children about animals. See how many of these animals children can name.

Discuss the various physical characteristics, camouflage abilities, and habitats of these animals. Then explain to children that, The Camel Who Took W Walk, takes place in a forest where many forest animals are introduced.

Talk with children about suspenseful or surprising situations they may have been involved in. Children may have been part of a surprise birthday party, looked forward to the arrival of a visiting relative or friend, received a package in the mail, etc. Ask:

- How did it feel to be waiting and wondering about what would happen?
- How did you feel when the event was over?
- How would you have felt if things did not turn out as you expected?

AFTER VIEWING ACTIVITIES

Have children recall the sequence of events. Encourage children to try and remember the plans of the tiger, monkey, squirrel and bird.

Then give children an opportunity to dramatize the sequence. Have children take turns being the tiger, monkey, squirrel bird and camel. You

may want to have children paint a forest scene as a backdrop for their dramatizations.

Play a simple game of “guess what animal I am” with children. Describe the physical characteristics of different animals, including the camel, monkey, squirrel, and bird, without naming them. See if children can identify the animals from your descriptions. Later, have children take turns describing animals while their classmates try to name them.

Have children recall the suspense each of the animals experienced while waiting for the camel. Then plan a special party for your class. Have children work together to plan and create special treats for the party, make party decorations, make invitations for another class to join them, etc. As the day of the party draws closer, remind children that the suspense of the coming party must be similar to the suspenseful feelings the animals in the film had while waiting for the camel. After the party, ask:

- How did it feel to have to wait several days for the party?
- What did you enjoy most about the party planning?
- How did you feel just before the party?
- How would you have felt if the party had been cancelled?

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