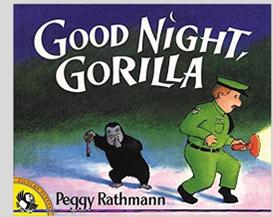




Good Night, Gorilla

By Peggy Rathmann



Reading with your child is an excellent way to expose your child to words, topics, and ideas that are more complex than what they would see in books they can read on their own. To help make story time more interactive consider using the PEER method described below. Read more about the PEER method [here](#).

PEER

PROMPT

Prompt your child with a question. This will help your child engage more deeply with the book.

Example: Point to an object in the picture. "What is that?"

EVALUATE

Evaluate your child's response by agreeing or clarifying.

Example: "That's right! That's a balloon."

EXPAND

Expand on your child's response by connecting it to something they have experienced or by being more descriptive.

Example: "That's a big, red balloon! We saw one of those yesterday."

REPEAT

Repeat the prompt you started with and encourage your child to use what you've discussed to answer again.

Activities

- » After Reading: Ask your child about their favorite part of the story. Revisit their favorite pages. Share your favorite part of the story too!
- » Search and Find: Ask your child to look for the different animals in the story. For example, say "Where is the elephant?" Encourage proper page turning while your child searches the pictures in the book for the elephant.
- » Animal Acting: Starting with the animals in the story, have your child act like an animal while you try to guess what animal they are pretending to be. Do this with as many animals as you can think of. Take turns acting and guessing with your child.
- » Lights and Shadows: Using a flashlight and various objects, encourage your child to create shadows on the wall. Notice the different shapes and sizes of the shadows depending on what objects you use and discuss what you notice with your child.

