Halloween At The Zoo

Run Time: 2:42
Author: George White
Illustrator: Jason O’Malley
Ages: 2-5
Genre
Fiction
Text Structure
Simple sentences; rhyming pattern
Content
Zoo animals dress up and go trick-or-treating at the zoo
Themes and Ideas
Animals at the zoo, trick-or-treating, costumes

Language and Literary Features
Third person narrative, meaning conveyed through illustrations
Sentence Complexity
Simple sentences
Vocabulary
Halloween, elephants, hippos, tigers, flamingos, kangaroos, gorillas, monkeys, zebras, crew, spooky
Illustrations
Colorful animations convey meaning of Halloween at the zoo
Book and Print Features
Animations convey meaning

Summary
All the animals are out for a fun-filled night of trick-or-treating at the Zoo! Join elephants, zebras, hippos, kangaroos, and more, as they wear silly costumes and celebrate Halloween together. This spooktacular story is based on a deluxe pop-up book—full of fun, humor and surprises.
Activity Ideas

● Change the game of Simon Says into the Zookeeper Says. Play the game the same except say “The Zookeeper says...” and use animal actions. For example say, “The zookeeper says walk like an elephant” or "The zookeeper says roar like a tiger." If the instruction doesn't start with “the zookeeper says,” the children aren't supposed to follow.

● Sit the children in a circle. Ask them to tell you what they know about zoos and animals in zoos. Allow children to share their experiences at the zoo. (You may want to have pictures of zoo animals available to help children recall prior knowledge.)

● Bring zoo animal figures. Show the children one animal at a time and ask them to name the animal and share what they know about the animal. Record their answers. You can use this list at the writing center.

● Divide children into groups (suggested group size: 4). Give each group plastic fruit baskets and a handful of small plastic zoo animals. Ask children to use the baskets as cages and divide the animals into cages. Then ask each group to share why they put the animals in the cages they did.

● A followup activity to the zoo creations. Ask each group to choose a zookeeper and the other members of the group will be zoo visitors. Discuss questions that zoo visitors might ask the zookeeper. Have zoo visitors rotate through the zoos and ask the zookeeper questions. Have a community share when activity is completed.

● Send home the Parent Connection. (Reproducible) Ask the children to share their conversations.

● Draw a picture in a Halloween costume. (Reproducible)

● Draw a picture of a Halloween parade of zoo animals. (Reproducible)
Parent Connection

Today our class read Halloween At the Zoo on Vooks. We saw a Halloween parade of the zoo animals dressed in costumes.

Talking points

Here are some suggestions to start the discussion.

● Tell me about Halloween At the Zoo?

● What was your favorite costume? Which animal wore it?

● What is your favorite animal at the zoo? Share your favorite animal at the zoo.

● What costume do you think they would wear? Share the costume you think your favorite animal should wear.
Draw a picture of yourself in a Halloween costume.

I am dressed as a ________________________________ for Halloween.
Draw a picture of a Halloween parade of zoo animals

(at least 3 animals)