Lesson Plan

At the Stroke of Goodnight

Story Summary

At the Stroke of Goodnight creates a poetic scene of what happens around a small farmhouse as night falls. A dreaming dog. A purring cat. A bird on a limb. A mouse on a mat. The evening glows in the twilight. And all falls quiet at the stroke of goodnight. A baby coos; a mommy sighs. Little ones tucked in, with dreams in their eyes. A gentle hand turns out the light. And all is quiet at the stroke of goodnight. At the Stroke of Goodnight gently and beautifully depicts a busy world settling in for a warm night’s sleep.

Book Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Run Time</td>
<td>5:22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Author</td>
<td>Clay Rice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Illustrator</td>
<td>Clay Rice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Narrator</td>
<td>Laura Post</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publisher</td>
<td>Familius</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ages</td>
<td>2–8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genre</td>
<td>Fiction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Themes &amp; Ideas</td>
<td>adjectives, prepositional phrases, nouns, rhyme, refrain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language &amp; Literary Features</td>
<td>Lyrical and rhyming text with a refrain.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sentence Complexity</td>
<td>Short simple sentences with a refrain.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocabulary</td>
<td>stroke, twilight, creak, clink, crooning, rustle, coo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Vocabulary</td>
<td>adjectives, prepositional phrases, nouns, rhyme, refrain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illustrations</td>
<td>Illustrations are from author’s silhouette paper cuttings with small and delicate details.</td>
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Lesson Focus

Nighttime

Activity Ideas

Drawing/writing
Draw a picture of what it looks like at twilight and describe.

Quiet Time
Be very quiet for 3 minutes (adjust time according to age). Ask children to be mindful of everything going on around. Make a list of everything the children heard.

Shadows
Create shadow silhouettes and have children guess what animals or shapes they are.

Additional activities can be found in the following pages of this document.
At the Stroke of Goodnight

At the Stroke of Goodnight creates a poetic scene of what happens around a small farmhouse as night falls. The story gently and beautifully depicts a busy world settling in for a warm night’s sleep.

What is At the Stroke of Goodnight about?

What kinds of sounds do animals make when they sleep?

When do things get very quiet at night in your home?

Have you ever awaken in the night and heard sounds? What were the sounds?

What is the most soothing nighttime sound for you?

Discuss the story and write your answers together.
Vooks Pause & Ponder

At the Stroke of Goodnight

Pause at the indicated time stamps and discuss the story

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Question</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0:22</td>
<td>Why does the dreaming dog have wings?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:01</td>
<td>What time is the stroke of goodnight?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:31</td>
<td>What sounds do you hear in your home when it is quiet at night?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:56</td>
<td>What is a crooning raccoon?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:28</td>
<td>Have you ever slept outside? What animal noises did you hear at night?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:03</td>
<td>What sounds might you hear on a farm at night?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:10</td>
<td>What happens when a rooster sees the first light?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00</td>
<td>Where do you think baby is?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

After viewing the Book:

1. Describe what it looks like outside at twilight.
2. What is the last thing that happens before you go to sleep?
3. What do you dream about at night?
At nighttime I see ____________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________.

NAME
Goodnight Poem

In *At the Stroke of Goodnight*, the phrase that repeats itself is, “And all is quiet at the stroke of goodnight.” The repeating line in a poem is called a refrain. Create your own “goodnight” poem using the repeated refrain.

Fill in the empty lines with two different things that you see or do at nighttime. Then, read your entire poem aloud.

1.

2.

And all is quiet at the stroke of goodnight.

2.

And all is quiet at the stroke of goodnight.
© Scratch Picture

Use oil pastels and paint to create your own scratch art. Create colorful projects with this fun, tactile technique!

Materials needed
- 25 pack of assorted paint brushes
- Skinny sticks
- White card stock
- Dish soap in a small bowl
- Wax paper
- Black poster paint
- Oil pastels

Directions
1. Gather all materials.
2. Place card stock on a piece of wax paper to protect the table. Color your paper with oil pastels, making sure to press really hard. Use bright colors to create any pattern you choose.
3. Continue coloring, adding many different colors, to cover the entire paper.
4. Add some black poster paint to a small bowl and pour a tiny amount of dish soap. The soap will help the paint stick to the oil pastels. Mix it together using a foam brush and begin painting it over your oil pastel picture.
5. Cover the entire paper and allow to dry. It’s okay if you see some of the pattern lightly under the paint.
6. Using a skinny stick, start scratching a design into the paper. The black paint will scratch off leaving the bright oil pastels underneath.
7. Experiment with different ways you can use the skinny stick. Use a corner to create thin lines or turn to use the flat edge for broad, thick lines. Scratch off larger areas to fill in sections with bright colors. Once complete, share with a friend!