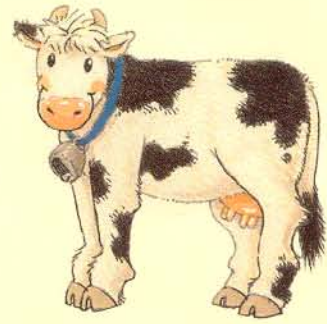


Miss Moo Goes to the Zoo

by Kelly Graves



- Read the story with your child(ren). This is a great read-together book, because it has small print for the adult to read and big print for the child. As you read your page and get ready to turn to the next page, use your voice to build anticipation and let the child know it will be his/her turn. Then, as you turn the page, pause and point to each word as the child reads. If the child can't read yet, encourage them to guess what it says by the picture clues. Every page with a child part has great picture clues of what is being said, so encourage the child to "read" the pictures.
- This book has two classifications of animals: zoo animals and farm animals. Piaget, the great intellectual theorist, tells us that when you encourage preschoolers to classify objects you are helping to develop the logical processes of the brain. Talk about the differences between farm and zoo animals. Look at the farm and zoo animals in the book. Which kinds of things are the same and which are different about the animals in the book? The discussion could include talking about how: farm animals are domesticated and zoo animals are wild, farm animals are used for food and clothing and zoo animals are protected, farm animals live around people and zoo animals don't, etc.
- Use the puzzles in this packet to make a farm puzzle and a zoo puzzle. Take one puzzle and put the stickers of the barn on both sides of the middle piece and put the farm animals stickers on both sides of the pieces that surround the middle piece. Do the same with the zoo and zoo animals pictures. Now, you have two puzzles: one with farm animals and one with zoo animals. Let your child(ren) separate the puzzle pieces and mix the parts of the two puzzles together. Then, let them see if they can match the farm animals to the barn and the zoo animals to the zoo.
- Let your child make an animal collage. Label one paper zoo animals and one farm animals. Then let them cut pictures of farm and zoo animals out of magazines, sorting them into piles and then glueing them on the appropriate page.
- This is a great book to help you talk to children about acceptance and including everybody. Talk about how Miss Moo felt when they Zoo animals were mean to her. Let them see the pictures where she is crying. Talk about the feelings you have when people laugh at you or talk mean to you or leave you out or tease you. Let them practice saying some of the words that make people feel happy and included like: "would you like to play with me?", "let me share my crayons", "let's play a game with everyone", "let me help you", or "can I be your friend?". Talk about teasing and how it can be fun if the other person can tease back but teasing that hurts other people is wrong. Talk with children about things they could do to make friends and help other children want to be friends with them.