

Activity Sheet



"How Do You Hug A Porcupine?"

by Laurie Isop, illustrated by Gwen Millward

"A dog or cat is not so hard. Just hug them in your own backyard. Hugging bunnies is just divine. But how do you hug a porcupine?"

Can you imagine hugging a porcupine? It's easy to imagine hugging a bunny or a billy goat, but how do you hug a porcupine?

Before you read this book: Show the book cover and talk about porcupines. Let the children feel the bristle ends of a whisk broom. Explain how porcupine quills are like the bristles. Ask if they can imagine hugging a porcupine?"

While you read this book: Enjoy the rhymes in the book. Invite your kids to say "but how do you hug a porcupine?" with you.

After you read this book: Cut a porcupine shape from brown construction paper. Have the kids draw the nose and eyes; use toothpicks and white glue to make the quills. Learn more about porcupines at <http://www.pbs.org/wnet/nature/critters/porcupine.html>

Try this at home: Play musical hugs (like musical chairs). Play music and have your family (and friends) dance around. When the music stops, everyone hugs!

Make "hug coupons" with your kids and share them with your family for redemption.

Additional resources:

"A Porcupine Named Fluffy" by Helen Lester, illustrated by Lynn Munsinger

"Hugs from Pearl" by Paul Schmid

F.Y.I.: January 21 is National Hugging Day