

WISCONSIN BOOKWORMS™

Activity Sheet



Barnyard Banter

By Denise Fleming

Barnyard Banter is an upbeat rhyming story that captures the feel of animals in the farmyard. Animal sounds and movements are used to create the rhymes within the story. The story holds a surprise for the reader. Goose or some part of Goose — at times only her beak — is visible within the lively illustrations.

Before you read: Ask the children which animals they would see in a farmyard and what sounds they would make. Sing “Old McDonald had a Farm” with the children.

While you read: *Barnyard Banter* can be read in a singsong voice taking advantage of the rhyme and rhythm of the story. As you read, look at the pictures with the children and see if they notice Goose before she is mentioned in the story. When Goose is mentioned, go back to the previous pages and find her in the illustrations. At the end of the story, point out the large print that tells the reader to use a loud voice when reading “There’s GOOSE! Honk, honk, honk.”

After you read: the reader can make an animal sound from the story and have the children make the animal sound that rhymes with the sound the reader made. Example: The reader says moo, moo, moo and the children respond cock-a-doodle-doo.

Children can participate in a farmyard-find activity. The reader tapes pictures of animals from the story around the classroom. Children can make binoculars for their farmyard-find activity by taping two toilet paper rolls together. The binoculars can be decorated with markers. As the reader makes the animal sounds, the children will search the room with their binoculars to find each of the farmyard animals.

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