

Clever Monkey Rides Again

Written by Rob Cleveland

ABOUT THE BOOK

GUIDED READING:

J

LEXILE LEVEL:

630L

CHARACTER

TRAITS:

Citizenship

Courage

Resourcefulness

REGION:

Africa

ISBN:

978-0-874838-28-2

Outcome

Students will demonstrate an understanding of the story through discussion, phonics, writing, and movement.

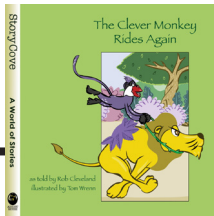
Overview

Students will read and explore a folktale from West Africa while utilizing multidisciplinary connections in science, social studies, dramatic arts, and art.

Materials

General

- Book, *The Clever Monkey Rides Again*
- Popsicle sticks
- Glue sticks
- Scissors
- Crayons
- Large white paper plates
- Orange or brown paint
- Paint brushes
- Pipe cleaners
- Scissors
- Markers
- Glue



Clever Monkey Rides Again

PreK

Optional: Extension Activities

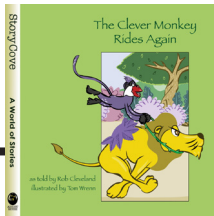
- Hamilton, Martha, and Mitch Weiss. "One Good Trick Deserves Another." *Through the Grapevine*. Little Rock: August House, 2001. 36-38.
- MacDonald, Margaret Read. *Conejito*. Little Rock: August House, 2006.
- Tingle, Tim. *When Turtle Grew Feathers*. Atlanta: August House, 2007.

Assessment Tools

- "Animal Puppets" worksheet
- "L" worksheet
- "Monkey and Lion's Path" worksheet

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Clever Monkey Rides Again

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Introduction

Introducing the Story

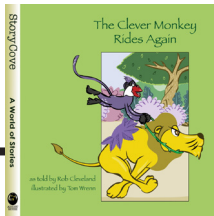
Directions:

- Teacher tells students they will be reading a story about animals in the African jungle.
- Teacher asks students to name jungle animals.
- Teacher asks students to tell what they know about lions.
- Teacher adds the following details about lions, as appropriate.
 - Lions are large, strong cats.
 - Lions live together in groups called prides.
 - Young lions are called cubs. When born, they are the size of a small house cat.
 - Male lions are the only ones with manes. Their manes begin to grow when they are about three years old.
- Teacher instructs students to listen for the other animals in the story.

Teacher Reads the Story

Materials:

- Book, *The Clever Monkey Rides Again*
- “Animal Puppets” worksheet
- Crayons
- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- Popsicle sticks (five per student)

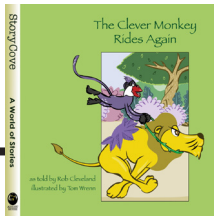


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Directions:

- Teacher reads through the story.
- After reading the story, teacher reviews unfamiliar words to define them and look at how they are used in the story, for example: saddle.
- Teacher asks students to identify the animals in the story.
- Teacher hands out the “Animal Puppets” worksheet.
- Students color in the pictures, cut them out, and glue them to the popsicle sticks to make puppets.
- Teacher tells students that she will read the story again.
- Teacher instructs students to listen carefully to the story and to hold up the correct puppet each time the animal is mentioned.
- Teacher reads story aloud.



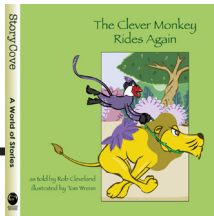
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Discussion Questions

For Assessing Comprehension

- Where did the animals live?
- Why were the animals sad?
- Most of the animals were afraid of the lion. Would you have been afraid of the lion? Why or why not?
- Of what animal was the monkey afraid?
- Of what animals would you be afraid?
- How did the monkey trick the lion?
- Why did the lion run fast?
- What did the animals do when they saw the monkey riding on the lion's back?
- Where did the monkey go?
- Why did the lion run away at the end of the story?
- Do you think the lion is still running?
- Do you think *the clever monkey* is still laughing?
- Is the lion a male or female? How do you know? (The lion is male. He has a mane.)



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Phonics

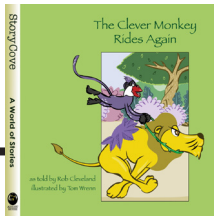
The Letter “L”

Materials:

- “L” worksheet
- Crayons

Directions:

- Lion begins with the letter “L.”
- Circle the pictures that begin with the letter “L” like lion.



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Pre-Writing

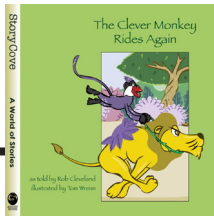
Monkey and Lion's Path

Materials:

- "Monkey and Lion's Path" worksheet
- Crayons

Directions:

- Use a crayon to trace the path that Monkey and Lion took to get to the watering hole.



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Dramatic Arts

Act it Out

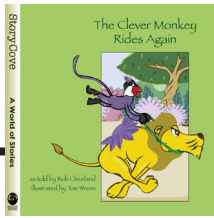
Directions:

- Teacher reviews story with students including plot, sequence, and characters.
- Teacher discusses the body language and facial expressions of characters using illustrations from the book.
- Teacher asks students what they think each character's voice would sound like.
- Teacher divides class into groups of at least 5 students per group.
- Teacher tells students which character from the story they will role-play. (Monkey, Lion, Elephant, Giraffe, Rhino, other jungle animals)
- Each group practices acting out the story.
- Each group shows the class their play.

Snake Game

Directions:

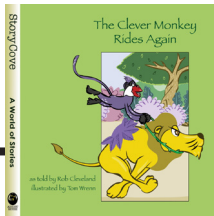
- This is a traditional African game that emphasizes cooperative play
- Teacher marks off boundaries to define the outside playing area.
- One student is chosen to be the head of the snake. That student chases the other students.
- When a student is caught, that student becomes the snake's tail.



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- The two students (snake's head and snake's tail) hold hands, chase the other students, and tag them from either end.
- Each new student who is tagged becomes either the head or the tail of the snake.
- The game continues until all of the students are part of the snake.



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Art

Paper Plate Lions

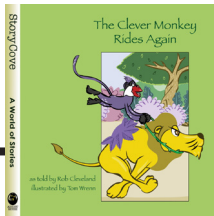
Materials:

- Large white paper plates (one per student)
- Orange or brown paint
- Paint brushes
- Pipe cleaners (six per student)
- Scissors
- Markers
- Glue

Directions:

Students:

- Paint the paper plate orange or brown. Allow it to dry.
- Create a mane by cutting slits around the plate about 2 inches deep and spaced about $\frac{3}{4}$ inch apart.
- Gently fold the strips of the mane back and forth like a fan to give body to the mane.
- Draw a face on the lion.
- Glue whiskers in place.
- Teacher asks students if the lions they made are male or female lions.
- Teacher asks students how they know. (Male lions have manes.)



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Extension Activity

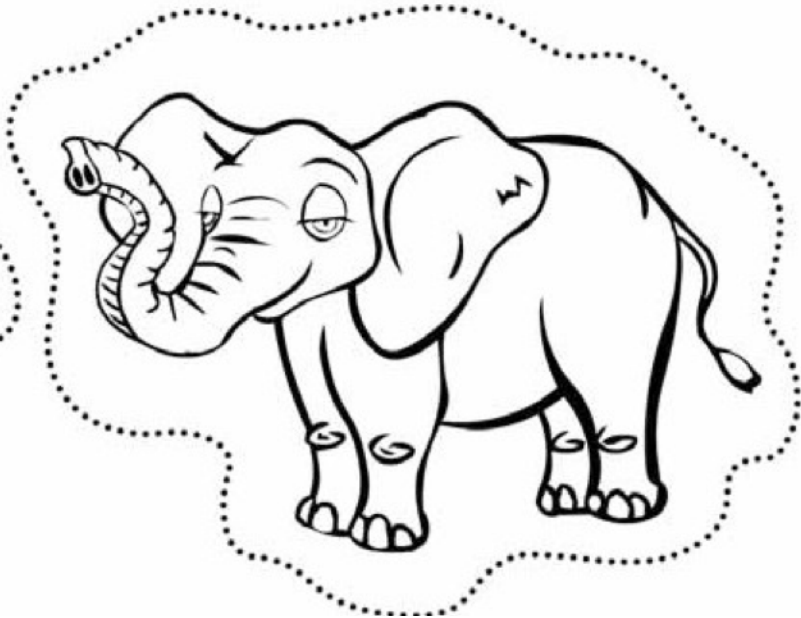
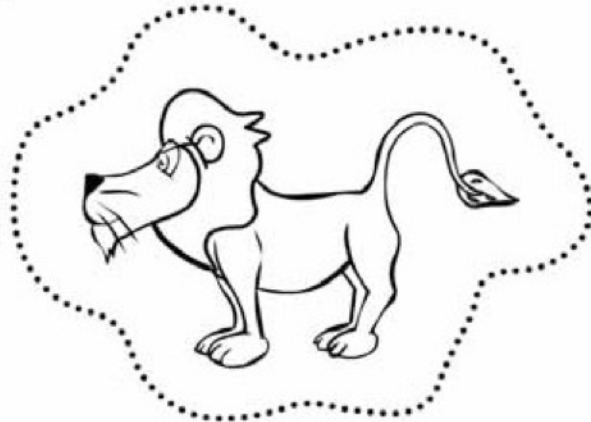
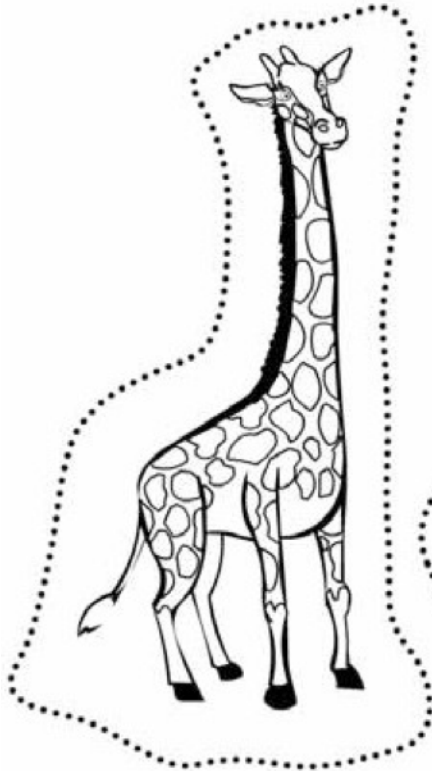
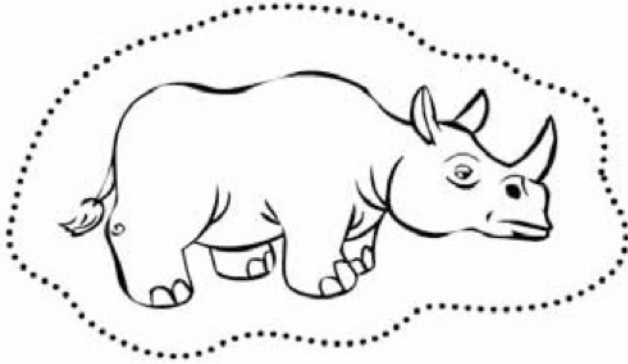
Compare and Contrast

Directions:

- Teacher reads *Conejito* by Margaret Read MacDonald to the students. Students compare and contrast this trickster tale about a clever rabbit with *The Clever Monkey Rides Again*.
- Teacher reads *When Turtle Grew Feathers* by Tim Tingle. Students compare and contrast this story about a rabbit that was a bully with *The Clever Monkey Rides Again*. Teacher can highlight these areas of comparison:
 - How do the characters bully others?
 - How do other characters outsmart the bully characters?
- Teacher reads “One Good Trick Deserves Another” on page 36 in *Through the Grapevine* by Martha Hamilton and Mitch Weiss. This tale from Tibet tells about clever mice outsmarting a cat. Students compare and contrast this story with *The Clever Monkey Rides Again*.

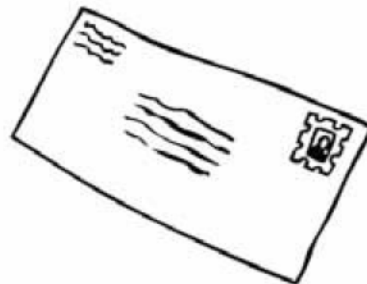
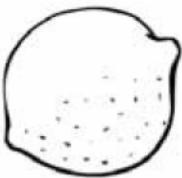
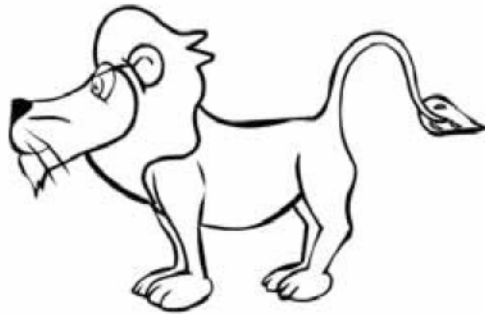
Name _____ Date _____

Animal Puppets



Name _____ Date _____

L



Name _____ Date _____

The Monkey and the Lion's Path

Directions: Trace the dotted lines to show the path the monkey and the lion took to get to the watering hole.

