

Learning possibilities

Text: Martin, B 1984, *Brown bear, brown bear, what do you see?* Hamish Hamilton, London.

Engage

- Step 1. If you have this book at home, encourage your child/children to predict what the story is about from the cover. If not use the suggested video link in the Resources box and watch the story together.
- Step 2. Read/watch the story and encourage your child/children to join in.
- Step 3. Show your child/children a set of animal sequence cards. (Cards can be made using children's drawings or search online with children to find animal images.)
- I wonder if we can put all the animals in the same order as they are in the story?
 - Which one came first?
 - Who was next? (use of sequencing language)
- Step 4. Here are some questions to ask your child/children about the story.
1. What animals did you see in this story?
 2. Finish this sentence with me: 'Brown Bear, Brown ...' (both lines)
 3. Which animal was first/second/third?
 4. What other animals could you include in this book?

Respond

Invite children to take turns retelling the story using the language of the book. Talk about the story, for example: ask your child/children about their favourite animal; what they noticed about the story (repetition).

Extend

- Set up a small tray, table or use the garden with plastic farm animals from the story for your child to play with.
- Use playdough to encourage your child/children to make characters from the story and discuss the characteristics of each animal, for example: 'I'm making the yellow duck. It's got two legs and its mouth is called a beak.'
- Encourage your child/children to experiment with different ways of moving like the animals in the horse. I wonder how a duck might move and what would it say?' 'That's right waddle waddle, quack, quack.'

Resources

Rhyme

'Hey diddle diddle' (traditional)
Hey diddle diddle
The cat and the fiddle
The cow jumped over the moon
The little dog laughed to see such fun
And the dish ran away with the spoon.

Video

Brown Bear, Brown Bear (text to music with book art)
(YouTube, Timothy Ryan)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HaDDsT9IAWc>