

Learning possibilities

Text: Graham, A 1984, *Picasso the green tree frog*, Keystone Picture Books, South Australia.

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. Before reading/watching, invite your child/children to look at the cover and make predictions, for example:
'I wonder what this story might be about?'
- Step 3. Share the title of the story and explain that the author writes the words and the illustrator draws the pictures.
- Step 4. Here are some questions to ask your child/children about the story.
1. Who is that? (point to the main character, pause the video if using online)
 2. What happened when Picasso landed in the jar of jellybeans?
 3. What did Picasso do after he landed in the jar of jellybeans?
 4. Where did Picasso go to try and become green again?

Respond

This story introduces a range of action words including: plop, dive, bounce, slipped, wallowed and jumped. Explore the meaning of each of these words and encourage your child/ children to experiment with the movements.

Extend

The focus of the story is about colour, so encourage your child/children to experiment with colour mixing.

- Add food colouring to shaving cream. Talk about how the shaving cream feels and how the colours change as they are mixed. (This is best done outside on a plastic tablecloth, in a plastic shell or at child's table that can be hosed down when finished)
- Experiment with colour mixing by making three small batches of finger paint, each in a different primary colour. Assist children to ladle small amounts of the paint into large resealable bags. Lay the bags flat on the table and encourage children to make patterns with their fingers and watch the colours change.
- Introduce the 'Colour matching bugs' game.

Resources

Song

'Der glumph' (traditional)

(hold closed fists on top of head, like frog eyes; open fingers wide on 'glumph')

'Der glumph' went the little green frog one day.

'Der glumph' went the little green frog.

'Der glumph' went the little green frog one day.

And the frog went, 'Glumph, glumph, glumph!'

(move hands from side to side, like windscreen wipers)

But we all know frogs go,

'La-de-da-de-dah,

La-de-da-de-dah,

La-de-da-de-dah'.

We all know frogs go,

'La-de-da-de-dah'.

They don't go, 'Glumph, glumph, glumph!'

'Mister Frog' (traditional)

Mister Frog jumped out of his pond one day, *(jump out of imaginary pond)*

And found himself in the rain, *(put arms out to side, palms facing up)*

Said he, 'I'll get wet and I might catch a cold' *(hands on hips)*

So he jumped in the pond again. *(jump back into imaginary pond)*

Video

Picasso the green tree frog (YouTube, Pa's Book Club)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S0zpRt2P2Qg>