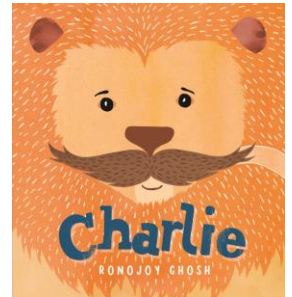




Charlie by Ronojoy Ghosh

Charlie's a very clever lion. He loves art, fancy restaurants and travelling. Or at least, he thinks he would. It's hard to tell, since he's stuck in a zoo. With a very clever disguise, Charlie finds a way to explore the world and takes readers along on a joyful romp with him.



Key Message for Parents | The brain develops through use

- Children learn in playful ways.
- Children learn through making connections between the things they know and believe, and the new things they discover in books and from others. Allow children to share their own experiences and to 'think out loud' to make these connections.
- Children like to 'test' and practise ideas in active ways like talking, making, singing and moving.
- Children retain information and develop new understandings when they have opportunities to be involved in ways other than just listening.

Australian Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) | Outcome 1: Children have a strong sense of identity.

- Children develop confidence when they are given opportunities to openly express themselves and feel 'listened to'.
- Children explore aspects of identity through role-play.
- Pretend games help children to consider identify and therefore learn more about themselves.
- Cooperating in group games and stories helps children to develop awareness and respect for others.

Welcome

Ask carers to write nametags for themselves and their children.

Welcome everyone, introduce yourself, remind adults to turn their mobile phones off and that there will be time for adults to chat after the story and songs.

Find booklists, tip sheets, nursery rhymes and activity and learning time sheets @

thelittlebigbookclub.com.au     



Welcome Song (or your preferred song)

Have the words available as a handout or written on a board or butcher's paper for the adults to read and join in.

Good Morning

Good morning to you

Good morning to you

Good morning everybody

and welcome to you!



Song – Leo the Lion

Leo the lion is the king of the jungle

and his jaws are big and wide.

Leo the lion when he roars it's a warning

that you'd better run away and hide.

So run, run as fast as you can,

'cos Leo is the leader of his clan.

He wears a proud mane of hair,

look into his eyes if you dare! [https://childrenlovetosing.com/kids-action-song/leo-the-lion-zoo/!](https://childrenlovetosing.com/kids-action-song/leo-the-lion-zoo/)

Welcome everyone! – You are going to love today's story, it is called Leo the Lion

Before Reading

Show the children the cover of the book and ask them what they notice.

What do they think the story might be about?

Where do they think the lion lives?

Do they think the lion might be about to have an adventure?

What kind of adventure?

Ask children to show you their lion teeth and claws.

Does Charlie look like a fierce or friendly? (The children may need an explanation of the meaning of the word fierce).

During Reading

Look at the illustration on the first page – ask the children where they think Charlie lives.

Read the story out loud, pausing at places that interest the children.

Talk about the places Charlie visits and allow children to share their own experiences of visiting similar places. Discuss the meaning of the word 'disguise' - sometimes when we dress up we wear a 'disguise'.



After Reading

Discussion:

Ask the children if they've ever been to the zoo and allow them to share their experiences. If children haven't been to the zoo, direct the conversation to where they might have seen animals (pets and birds at the park etc.).

Ask the children about their favourite animals and allow them to share anecdotes. (Undoubtedly, a child will mention a dead pet. Acknowledge that it's sad when a pet dies and move the conversation back towards animals in general.)

Movement: Name one of the animals the children have just mentioned and ask them to show you how that animal might move. Repeat for a selection of animals.

Drama: Play the song 'Leo the Lion' again and encourage children to move around on all fours like a lion. They might like to swish their mane and show their claws.

Finish with the **Zoo** song and encourage children to join in with animal movements while they sing.

Song – We're going to the zoo tomorrow

CHORUS:

We're going to the zoo, zoo, zoo.

How about you, you, you.

You can come too, too, too.

We're going to the zoo, zoo, zoo.

See all the monkeys scritch, scritch scratching.

Hanging by their long tails scritch, scritch scratching.

Jumping all around and scritch, scritch scratching.

We can stay all day!

CHORUS

See the tall giraffes with long neck stretching.

Poking out tongues with long neck stretching.

Munching on leaves with long neck stretching.

We can stay all day!

CHORUS

See the slippery seals splish, splash, splashing.

Diving in the water splish, splash, splashing.

Doing funny jigs and splish, splash, splashing.

We can stay all day!

CHORUS

Well we stayed all day and we're gettin' sleepy

Sittin' in the car gettin' sleep sleep sleepy

Home already gettin' sleep sleep sleepy

'Cause we have stayed all day.

CHORUS



Extension Activities:

Thinks to make:

Make a simple disguise. Use pipe cleaners to create glasses and attach a paper moustache.
Make a lion tail costume using fabric, ribbon or pantyhose.

Pin on the tail and try to use it as a disguise like Charlie, or simply have fun moving like a lion.

Song: The Lion Sleeps Tonight

Play: Hide and Seek

Art: Camouflage art.

Collect a selection of small natural materials such as leaves, twigs, sticks, straw, feathers, sand and petals.

Consider what small animal might find camouflage in the materials. Draw (or print) the animal and colour-it-in.

Paste the animal onto a piece of paper or card and then paste the natural materials around it to provide camouflage. (Here is one example: <https://frugalfun4boys.com/animal-camouflage-art-kids/>)

More: Publisher's Activity Pack – (Printable moustaches and Word Find)

https://www.penguin.com.au/content/CHARLIE_PRH_GHOSH_PBACTPACK_HR_no%20cover.pdf

STEM FOCUS (for Toddler and Preschool)

Animals in Disguise (Camouflage)

Questions to ask the children:

- Charlie makes a disguise to hide in the city. Do lions need disguise in the wild? (A lion's golden colour provides camouflage in – show the children a picture of a lion in the savannah.)
- Why do lions need a disguise?
- Can you think of other animals or insects that might want to wear a disguise to hide? Why do they want to hide?

Introduce the term 'camouflage' and show the children pictures and books of animals using camouflage.

Ask the children to have a look at their own clothing and stand next to someone or something that will provide the best camouflage for them.

Using a selection of animal toys or figurines ask the children about the best way/place for the toy to be camouflaged. Maybe move the toys around the room or over different images to demonstrate.

You might like to have already positioned an animal in a clever place before the Story Time and you can now ask the children if they can spot it.

Goodbye

Conclude the session with some suggestions of books that parents might want to share with their children. The Little Big Book Club suggests the following books to support learning in this area. If your library has copies, make them available for families to borrow or include them in your story time session.



For some more stories to share, we recommend the following titles:

- *Imagine* by Alison Lester
- *The Silver Sea* by Alison Lester & Jane Godwin
- *Room on our Rock* by Jol and Kate Temple

Goodbye Song

Depending on the size of your group, you may wish to insert each child's name in the place of 'you' as it develops a more personal relationship between yourself, the child and the family.

Sung to the tune of (*Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush*) or your choice.

Goodbye

This is the way we say goodbye (wave) say goodbye, say goodbye

This is the way we say goodbye to all our library friends (or) (to our friend.....)!