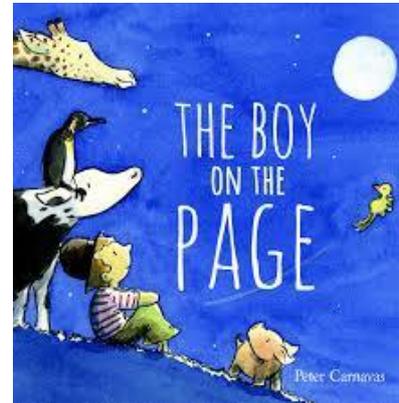


The Boy on the Page

Theme: Books About Books (August 2014)

In this story, a small boy lands on a page and wonders why he is there. By living a life full of adventure he discovers the reason for him being on the page. This book explores the concept of discovering the joy and wonder of life.



Key Message for Parents: The Best Learning Happens in Nurturing Relationships

We can help young children learn by:

- Sharing books that promote positive and caring relationships between adults and children
- Developing a relationship with children that is secure and trusting and fosters a strong sense of wellbeing
- Being a role model to children about how to interact positively with others

Learning Outcomes: Outcome 1: Children Have a Strong Sense of Identity

We can help young children develop a strong sense of identity by:

- Supporting children's secure attachment through warm, nurturing relationships
- Acknowledging each child's uniqueness in positive ways
- Recognising and respecting children's expression of their thoughts and feelings

Welcome

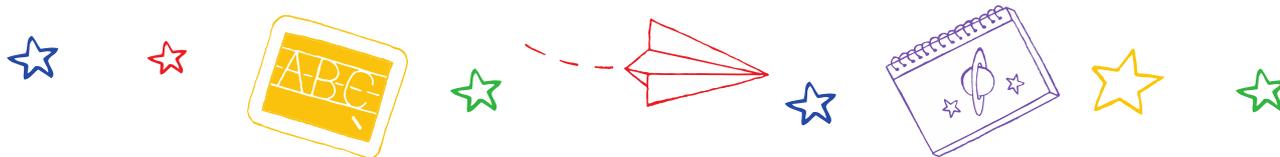
Welcome everyone, introduce yourself, remind adults to turn their mobile phones off and remind them that there will be time for adults to chat after the story and songs.

Sing - 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!*



A Song for Everyone

This welcome song acknowledges and values each individual child by using their name. For each child you can choose a body part to move. For example:

Jodie's here today

Jodie's here today

Everybody clap your hands. Jodie's here today.

Tom's here today

Tom's here today

Everybody stamp your feet. Tom's here today.

Ella's here today

Ella's here today

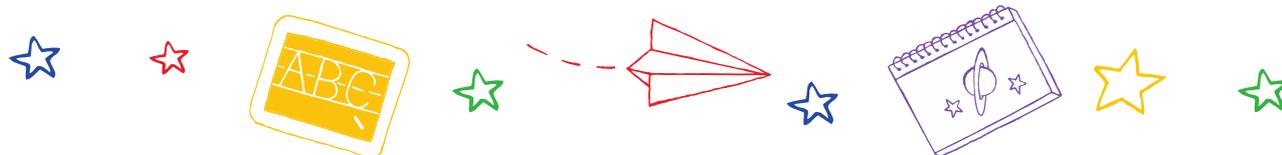
Everybody shake your hands. Ella's here today.

Before Reading

You can show the children the front of the book and tell them that it is called *The Boy on the Page*. Open up the cover so that you can see the front and the back. This makes the whole picture complete. Ask the children "What can you see?" They will identify: the moon, the bird, the pig, the boy, the cow, the penguin, the turtle, the giraffe, the hill, and stars. You can point to the things that are identified. If the children miss one, you can point it out or you can repeat the question "Can you tell me what this is called?" You can tell the children that the author of this story is named Peter Carnavas. One day when he was trying to write a story, he stared at a blank page. He couldn't think of any ideas. He wanted an idea to jump onto his page. Let's have a look.....Turn to the first page and show the children that it is a blank page with the little boy drawn on the right corner. There he is! There is a boy on the page! Let's read this story and find out about what happened when the boy landed on the page.

During Reading

There are many things that you could talk about in this story. It would benefit from being read slowly. Take your time and look at each picture. You will see the animals identified on the front cover on each page, being involved in each scene. The boy gets older during the story and is involved in many adventures. You can stop at the page that reads "He saw the whole world in somebody's eyes" and ask the children what does this mean. When it comes to the part when the man jumps off the page, you can pause for silence while you show the blank page without the man. Then at the end of the story, you can show the blank page with the man walking away, and ask the children what they can see. They may be able to recall that the first page had the boy and the last page has the boy all grown up into a man.



After Reading

Ask the children if they are able to recall some of the things the boy did during his life. You can go back and look at the pictures to prompt responses. You can ask the children to think about what happened when the man jumped off the page. Where did he go? Accept all responses, there is no right or wrong answer. You can also ask the children about the last page when the man knew why he was here. What does that mean? Why was he here? This story is about loving and being loved. You can point out all of the ways love is shown on the last page.

Here is a song all about love that you can sing together:

Skiddamarink

*Skiddamarink a dink a dink
Skiddamarink a doo
I love you*

*Skiddamarink a dink a dink
Skiddamarink a doo
I love you
I love you in the morning and in the afternoon
I love you in the evening and underneath the moon*

*Skiddamarink a dink a dink
Skiddamarink a doo
I love you*

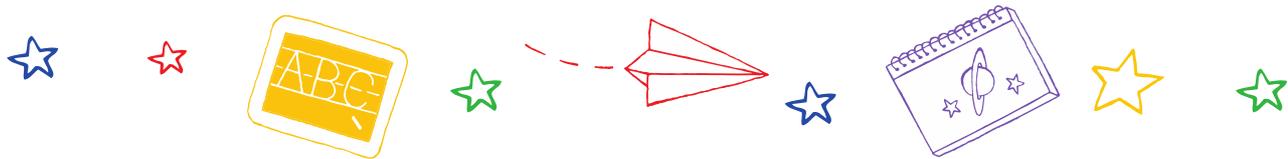
Activity Time: Connect to Books

The author, Peter Carnavas, has written a lovely song about *The Boy on the Page*. You can find it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1yMvszuU8T0>

As he sings the song, the little girls in the clip add pictures to a blank page from the story.

If you landed on a blank page, what would you like the illustrator to draw around you? Take lots of ideas about the places and things the children would like on their blank page. It is good to encourage all children to have the opportunity to respond and to value all responses. You can also provide some suggestions by looking back through the story.

You can use the illustrations provided to make a picture. Colour in the animals and the boy and glue them onto a blank page. Each child's page might look very different. Celebrate each child's version.



Extension activity:

Ask the children to draw their own picture by providing them with a blank page and asking them to draw whatever they would like to draw! What would you do to fill in a blank page? Display all of the pages and celebrate all of the children's efforts.

Connect to reading further by exploring books from the Children's Book Council of Australia's 2014 Book of the Year shortlist. More information is provided on their website here:

<http://cbca.org.au/>

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.

- *A Bit Lost* by Chris Haughton
- *My Two Blankets* By Irena Kobald and Freya Blackwood
- *The Children Who Loved Books* by Peter Carnavas

Goodbye Song

This is the way we say goodbye (use a waving action)

Say goodbye, say goodbye

This is the way we say goodbye

To all our library friends (or :) to our friend.....)

Depending on the size of your group, you may wish to insert each child's name in the last line rather than 'library friends' 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 preferred choice.