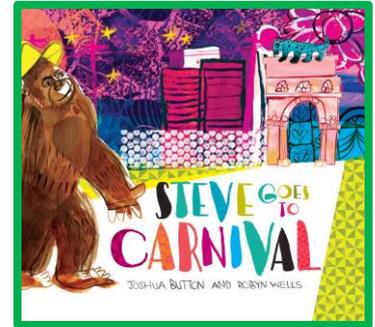


Steve Goes To Carnival by Joshua Button and Robyn Wells

Steve goes to carnival is a vibrant book about a gorilla named Steve. It follows Steve on his journey one night from the zoo in Rio de Janeiro, through the city streets to find his friend Antonio. The streets are alive with the sounds, sights and aromas of the Carnival. Join Steve and Antonio and discover what exciting things Brazil has to offer a gorilla in disguise. The wonderful layered illustrations give great depth to this story. As the Rio Olympics get closer to starting, Steve goes to carnival would be a wonderful introduction to the culture and lifestyle of the Brazilian people.



Key Message for Parents - The Brain Develops Through Use

Share with parents the importance of a child's first 5 years of life, this is when most of their brain development happens. Share some ideas with parents on how they can support their child's brain and overall development – some suggestions include:

- Sharing stories together is one way to explore the world, different cultures and languages. Learn about the world together and delight in your child's wonderment when they discover things for the first time.
- Repetition is important! It is how children will learn and develop new ideas.
- Encourage your child's curiosity. Spend one-on-one time with your child. Share stories, explore new ideas, play games and talk with your child. Invite your child to ask questions and ask them questions in return (Make sure you give them plenty of time to respond – be patient!)

Learning Outcomes - Outcome 5: Children are effective communicators

From birth children try to communicate with others. Children are social beings and will have thoughts, ideas and feelings about the world around them. Children will communicate verbally and non-verbally with others and may express their ideas through the use of language, storytelling, art dance or even movement.

We can support children in becoming effective communicators by:

- Listening to and responding to children's ideas, questions and representations
- Modelling appropriate language and conversations (serve and return)
- Extending children with stories about other countries and their cultures
- Engage in play, share books, sing songs and be active
- Try to use current, real life examples to extend children's knowledge and vocabulary that is relevant to their learning.

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

thelittlebigbookclub.com.au     



Themes within this story

- Friendship
- Animals
- Diversity

Invitation to story time

Story time can take place at anytime, anywhere! It may be with a large or small group, inside or outside. Story time may happen at different times of the day throughout the week. You might like to have a bell, call or song to let children know that it is time to come together and share a story

Song

The Hokey Pokey invites children to get their wiggles out before sitting for a story. Actions songs are also a fun and meaningful way to strengthen coordination, by moving their bodies along with the words to the song.

Encourage children to sing and dance along and to practice their left and right body parts within the song. Do the actions according to the lyrics and spin around on the spot or ask the children to hold the next child's hand and spin around together. Raise your hands into the center when singing *whoa hokey pokey, pokey!*.

Hokey Pokey

*You put your right hand in,
You put your right hand out,
You put your right hand in,
And you shake it all about,
You do the hokey pokey,
And you turn around,
That's what it's all about.*

*Whoa Hokey Pokey, Pokey
Whoa Hokey Pokey, Pokey
Whoa Hokey Pokey, Pokey
That's what it's all about.*

Continue and substitute other body parts in place of right hand

E.g. left hand, left foot, right foot, head, whole self





Before Reading

This book was written by Joshua Button and his writing mentor Robyn Wells. You may like to explore the concept of a mentor – a mentor is like a teacher, someone who has lots of knowledge on a topic or has many skills in a particular area. Mentors help. When you learn something new, like writing a story. Explore and discuss any special skills the children in your session have? How do they help each other?

Steve Goes to Carnival is a story about many of Joshua's favourite things. Take time to look at the front cover. Ask children what can they see? Steve is a gorilla and he has a great adventure, invite children to look out for Steve and to notice what he gets up to along the streets of Rio.

During Reading

The Rio de Janeiro Carnival in Brazil is the most famous carnival in the world. This story is a fantastic opportunity to learn about the carnival, the city of Rio de Janeiro and even some Portuguese language.

As you read this story, take time to allow children to look at the pictures. Point out the vibrant colours, and allow children to ask questions if they choose. There may be many new concepts in the illustrations. You might like to talk about favelas, what they are and who lives there when you reach that page. Embrace the language in this story! Throughout this story you are introduced to some Portuguese words, Brazil's national language. Encourage children to repeat new words, this will help them to pronounce new words or sounds.

After Reading

If you spent time exploring the language you might like to read this story a second time, straight through without interruptions.

You may also like to go back and explore the detailed pictures, on each page there are wonderful layers of illustration that could be looked at and discussed further. What can you see? Patterns? Shapes? Animals?

Ask the children what they liked best about the book? Did they like the animals from the zoo? The carnival and all of the brightly dressed people celebrating on the streets? Was it the Jazz music? Follow children's lead and explore what they find interesting in more detail.

Look at the county of Brazil and the city Rio de Janeiro. You can look at the flag, compare it to Australia or other countries. Look at the shape of the county, how many people live there compared to Adelaide? Because the 2016 Olympics are about to take place you may consider introducing the idea of the Olympics and some of the sports that are involved in the competition.

Song/Rhyme suggestions:

- We're going to the zoo
- What a wonderful world (Louis Armstrong)
- It's a small world
- The Carnival of the Animals (Saint Saens)

Activity Extension ideas:

- Listen to Jazz music
- Host your own Olympics
- Talk about/visit the zoo.





Activity Time

Carnival Headdress or Fan

Rio's Carnival is vibrant, full of colour and has many great costumes on display. Use brightly coloured feathers and other easily accessible craft supplies to create a Carnival inspired headdress or fan.

Materials needed:

- cardboard strips
- feathers
- pipe cleaners
- sequins
- colourful paper
- scissors
- large pop sticks
- glue or sticky tape



NOTE: Adult supervision is required at all times

Instructions:

1. Use a strip of cardboard to create a loop for a headband. Check if it fits your child's head and join it together with tape.
2. Decorate the headband. Make it as colourful as you like, remembering not to make it too top heavy as it might not stand up on the child's head once complete.
3. Glue or tape down any embellishments.
4. If your child doesn't want a headband they could decorate the end of a large paddle pop stick and use it as a fan too wave around.
5. Wave the fan or wear the headband while celebrating, Rio style.

More stories to share

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

- **Golden Domes and Silver Lanterns** by Hena Khan and Mehrdokht Amini
- **Same, Same But Different** by Jenny Sue Kostecki-Shaw
- **Same But Little Bit Diff'rent** by Kylie Dunstan
- **Ballroom Bonanza** by Nina Rycroft
- **Giraffes Can't Dance** by Giles Andreae and Guy Parker-Rees

Books can be borrowed from your local public library or are available to buy via our website

www.thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/shop/titles

Additional resources

Additional resources are free and available on our website, including nurse rhymes, tip sheets and Activity Time. These resources are great to share with families, and you are welcome to print and use as necessary. www.thelittlebigbookclub.com

Activity Time is a guide for families to help give ideas on how to engage and interact with their children using books as a platform to play, sing and talk with their child. Every Activity Time has an interaction/experience, game or craft idea that links back to the story – giving families ideas on activities they can share together, but also further information as to why it's important for their child's brain and overall development.