

Melanin Babies "Greydie Takes Flight" Reading Comprehension Activity

For Teachers of Children Ages 3-7 (Video Duration: 2:39)

1. **Video Viewing (2:39):**

- Create a "zoo-like" atmosphere in the classroom with stuffed animals or animal pictures.
- Watch the 2:39 minute video "Greydie Takes Flight".
- Encourage children to mimic animal sounds they hear in the video.

2. **Animal Sound Game (3 minutes):**

- After the video, play a quick animal sound game.
- The teacher makes an animal sound from the story (tiger, hippo, parrot).
- Children guess the animal and do a simple action:
 - Tiger: Show claws and growl
 - Hippo: Open mouth wide
 - Parrot: Flap arms like wings

3. **Greydie's Flight (4 minutes):**

- Children stand up and spread their arms.
- The teacher calls out Greydie's actions: "Greydie soars!" (children raise arms high)
- "Greydie twirls!" (children spin in place)
- "Greydie lands!" (children crouch down)

4. **Feeding Time Fun (5 minutes):**

- Give each child a small cup with cheerios or small crackers (check for allergies).
- Children pretend the snacks are Greydie's favorite foods.
- They practice "feeding Greydie" by carefully picking up one piece at a time and placing it in a designated "feeding bowl".

5. **Gentle Hands Practice (3 minutes):**

- Discuss why Greydie got scared when Nylah tried to high-five her.
- Practice approaching animals gently:
 - Children pair up; one pretends to be Greydie.
 - The other practices are slowly extending their hand, palm down.
 - Switch roles and repeat.

6. Story Recap Freeze Dance (5 minutes):

- Play upbeat music and let the children dance.
- When the music stops, ask a simple question about the story.
- Children who know the answer raise their hand.
- Call on a child to answer before resuming the music.
- Questions:
 - a. What kind of animal is Greydie? (A parrot)
 - b. What color is Greydie? (Grey)
 - c. What does Greydie like to eat? (Grapes and peanuts)
 - d. What did Greydie do that amazed the children? (She flew)

7. Craft Time: My Zoo Friend (10 minutes):

- Provide paper and crayons/markers.
- Children draw their favorite animal from the zoo in the story.
- Please encourage them to add details about being gentle with their animal friend.

8. Closing Circle (3 minutes):

- Sit in a circle and pass around a tiny stuffed parrot.
- Each child shares one thing they learned about being kind to animals when holding the parrot.

Remember to adapt activities based on your specific group's age and abilities. Enjoy your zoo adventure with Greydie!