

The Water Hole

by Graeme Base

A perfect combination of a counting book, puzzle book and storybook that will be a favorite in the classroom library.



Read

Before:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, *What would you do if you found a ton of animals all drinking from the same pond?* Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an "I wonder" statement based on the cover illustration.

- I wonder which animal drinks the most water?

During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions, and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end. Point out "rare words" (e.g., those words that are not commonly used in every day conversation) and help the children relate the meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

Rare Words in *The Water Hole*

- lapping: to drink a liquid with your tongue
- delectable: delicious, delightful, very tasty
- squawking: utter harsh cry, very noisy
- gazing: to look for a long time with unwavering attention
- wallowing: to lie down and roll around in something
- hoof: the foot of a horse, deer, cow or similar animal
- floundering: to make clumsy uncontrolled movements while trying to regain balance
- fiscal year: the financial year, existing of a 12 month period
- lumbering: to move clumsily or heavily

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- What was the first animal to drink from the water hole?
- How many tigers drank from the water hole?
- What started to happen to the water when the three toucans showed up?
- How many snow leopards were there?
- Which animals were brown, had large horns and had five present?
- What did the catfish do? Where was he living?
- How many panda bears were there? Ladybugs? Tortoises?
- What happened to the water when the kangaroos showed up?
- Where did all the animals go?
- What happened when it started to rain?
- What did the animals do?



Do

Smallest to Greatest – Number Sequencing 1-10

You will need: scissors and glue

Give each child the *Smallest to Greatest* sheet. They will need to cutout each number square. Name and identify each square and help the children order the squares from 1 to 10 and have them glue the squares on the paper in the right sequence order.