

Let's Spell Black

Teaching Ideas and Answers

1. Name and discuss the animals in the video. For instance, where do they live? What do they eat? Can they fly or swim? Encourage your kids to use complete sentences to describe the animals and their behavior. Here are the animals in the video.
 - Elephant
 - Turtle
 - Rhinoceros
 - Eagle
 - Camel
 - Bears
 - Seals
 - Zebra
 - Blackbird
 - Cat
 - Penguin
 - Lion
 - Tiger
 - Horse
 - Dog
2. Discuss the story shown in the video. Where does the family go? How did they get there? How did they get home? What chores do the children have? Encourage your kids to use complete sentences to tell the story.
3. Name some other things that are black. Here are a few:
 - Coal
 - Licorice
 - Spider
 - Clarinet
 - Crow
 - Bat
 - Gorilla
 - Tires
 - Panther
 - Ant
 - Rabbit
 - Street
 - Witches hat
 - Crow

4. Read the lyric sheet aloud and let the kids finish the lyric. For instance, “I see one baby _____. Two bears taking a _____. Three seals dive in the _____. That zebra’s stripes are _____.”
5. The chorus of the song was designed to be catchy and predictable. This makes it easier for the kids to sing the most important part of the song. “B I a c k spells black. B I a c k.” Divide your kids into two, three or four groups. As the song plays, you act as choir director and point to whichever group you want to call out the individual letters. Point to different groups at random to keep the children on their toes!
6. Have your class act out the story in the song. Three or four children can be the family visiting the zoo and the rest of the kids can be zoo animals. As the family visits each “animal” the child portraying the animal will have to tell something about herself. For instance, “I am a zebra. I live in Africa and I eat grass and leaves.”
7. I included the MP3 song file to give you a little more flexibility over how you use the music. Sometimes you may just want to play the song as background music during playtime. Or maybe as an organized group activity like the ones described above. So feel free to use it on whatever device you prefer. Load it on to your iPhone or burn it on to a cd.
8. The lyric sheet is an editable word document. Please use it in any way you think will be helpful to your kids. Change the font size or type, change the page orientation. Print out individual phrases and have the kids draw a picture that corresponds to the phrase. Print out the lyric sheet and help your kids find popcorn words. There are quite a few in the song; can, no, the, and, is, that, of, big, be, I, it, a, now, up, way, we, saw, had, here, home, need, take, down, go, good, are, last, see, this and many more.
9. I’m sure you will come up with other very creative ways to use the contents of this program. If you do and you feel like sharing, drop me a note at mike@rockrhythmandrhyme.com and I’ll include your ideas (and give you credit for them) on the Rock Rhythm and Rhyme website.



 Have fun.  Learn more.