

The Happy Man and His Dump Truck

by Miryam

It will be impossible to be sad after reading this story about a farmer, his old dump truck and the happy animals that he takes for a ride every day.



Read

Before:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow that with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, *If you had a dump truck, what would you carry in it?* 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 where that man is taking all those animals?

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 Happy Man and His Dump Truck*

- dumper: the back end of a dump truck, raises and lowers to help dump out materials
- tailgate: a rear door that helps keep materials in the back of a truck

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- What did the farmer like to do every day when he passed someone?
- What animal wanted to go for a ride?
- What happened to the pig when the farmer raised the dumper?
- What kinds of animals joined the pig in the back of the dump truck?
- Why did the animals like to ride in the truck?
- What did the farmer do with the animals when he was finished giving them a ride?
- How did giving others rides make the farmer feel?

Do

La La La

As a group, sing several songs about trucks and songs that make the children happy. Incorporate some songs that have actions. For example:

Garbage Truck

to the tune of London Bridges

We're going to _____ house, to _____ house,
to _____ house,

We're going to _____ house to pick up the garbage cans. (insert children's names)

Jump down turn it around,
pickin' up the garbage,
Jump down turn it around,
Put it in the truck.

Whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa,
grinding up the garbage,
Whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa,
Put it in the truck.

Hurry, Hurry, Drive the Fire Truck

Hurry, hurry, drive the fire truck

(Hands on steering wheel)

Hurry, hurry, drive the fire truck

Hurry, hurry, drive the fire truck

Ding, ding, ding, ding, ding!

(Ring bell)

Hurry, hurry, turn the corner

(Lean to the right)

Hurry, hurry, turn the corner

(Lean to the left)

Hurry, hurry, turn the corner

(Lean to the right and left)

Ding, ding, ding, ding, ding!

(Ring bell)

Hurry, hurry, climb the ladder

(Pretend to climb ladder)

Hurry, hurry, climb the ladder

Hurry, hurry, climb the ladder

Ding, ding, ding, ding, ding!

(Ring bell)

Hurry, hurry, squirt the water

(Pretend to spray hose)

Hurry, hurry, squirt the water

Hurry, hurry, squirt the water

Ding, ding, ding, ding, ding!

(Ring bell)

Slowly, slowly, back to the station

(Lean slowly to the left and right)

Slowly, slowly, back to the station

Slowly, slowly, back to the station

Ding, ding, ding, ding, ding!

(Ring bell)