

Good Night, Gorilla

By Peggy Rathmann

The watchman at the zoo thinks all the animals have gone to bed. Does he have a surprise! This book has few words, so you and your child can tell the story from the pictures.

New words and sounds your child might learn:

gorilla, elephant, lion, hyena, giraffe, zoo, flashlight, keys, lock, cage, yawn, good night.

Before:

- Point to the gorilla on the cover. Put your finger to your lips and say, “Shhhh.” Encourage your child to do it. Explain that you are being very quiet like the gorilla.
- If you have a flashlight, show it to your child and tell her what it is. Help her turn it on and off if she’s old enough. Point to the one that the night watchman is using.
- Show your child your keys. Tell her what they are.

During:

- Tell the story on each page as you see it.
- Use words simple enough for your child’s age and level of understanding. “Look, little Gorilla is taking the keys. The keys are like my keys.”
- Say goodnight to the animals in the zoo.
- Show your child that surprises are funny in this story.

After:

- At bedtime, help your child say, “goodnight” to people in the family and to stuffed animals or toys in her room.
- Get a set of keys for your child to chew on and/or pretend with (toy keys, washed old keys, or uncut keys from a store). Make sure they can’t come apart and be swallowed.
- With your child, act like you are tiptoeing and being very quiet like the gorilla and the night watchman.
- Use a flashlight to look around a dark room together.

Try some of the ideas above. Continue to use your own imagination during book play, too. Have fun with the book and enjoy your time together.

Family **A**nd **C**hild **E**ducation

Good Night, Gorilla

By Peggy Rathmann

The watchman at the zoo thinks all the animals have gone to bed. Does he have a surprise! This book has few words, so you and your child can tell the story from the pictures.

New words and sounds your child might learn:

gorilla, elephant, lion, hyena, giraffe, zoo, flashlight, keys, lock, cage, yawn, good night.

Before:

- Point to the gorilla on the cover. Put your finger to your lips and say, “Shhhh.” Encourage your child to do it. Explain that you are being very quiet like the gorilla.
- If you have a flashlight, show it to your child and tell her what it is. Help her turn it on and off if she’s old enough. Point to the one that the night watchman is using.
- Show your child your keys. Tell her what they are.

During:

- Tell the story on each page as you see it.
- Use words simple enough for your child’s age and level of understanding. “Look, little Gorilla is taking the keys. The keys are like my keys.”
- Say goodnight to the animals in the zoo.
- Show your child that surprises are funny in this story.

After:

- At bedtime, help your child say, “goodnight” to people in the family and to stuffed animals or toys in her room.
- Get a set of keys for your child to chew on and/or pretend with (toy keys, washed old keys, or uncut keys from a store). Make sure they can’t come apart and be swallowed.
- With your child, act like you are tiptoeing and being very quiet like the gorilla and the night watchman.
- Use a flashlight to look around a dark room together.

Try some of the ideas above. Continue to use your own imagination during book play, too. Have fun with the book and enjoy your time together.

Family **A**nd **C**hild **E**ducation