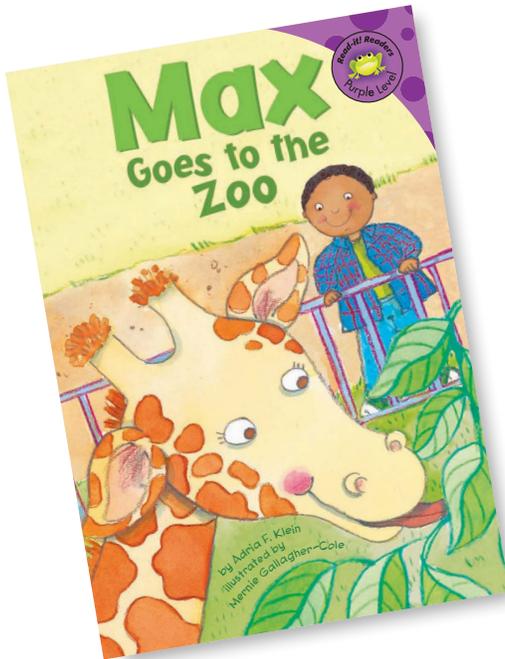


CREATIVE DRAMATICS

 Picture Window™
Books



Max Goes to the Zoo written by Adria F. Klein

Characters:	Narrator Max Lily Animals
Props:	Animal masks, Animal puppets
Genre:	Realistic fiction
Ages:	4-6

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NOTES TO THE LEADER OF THE CREATIVE DRAMATICS SESSION

Before acting out the story, read *Max Goes to the Zoo* to the entire class.

The leader/narrator of the creative dramatics session needs to give clear, simple clues to the children who are acting out the story. First, select the children who will be playing the separate parts. Max and Lily can be played by individual children or by a group. The same goes for the animals at the zoo.

The leader might want to ask the children to describe the characters before the session begins. For example, "What are words to describe Max and Lily?" Answers could include friendly, curious, happy, excited, etc. Also, "What are words to describe the animals?"

The children can act out the story from their chairs, sitting on the floor, or by standing in clearly marked places where the action will take place. The front of the room could be the zoo; you could also have different locations for each animal's cage. It is always a good idea to make sure that all the characters and locations (if you decide to use them) are clearly established before the play session begins.

Narrator: Max is going to the zoo. He asks his friend Lily if she wants to go to the zoo with him.

Max: Do you want to go to the zoo with me?

Narrator: (*Narrator could prompt, "Have you ever been to the zoo? Who did you go with? How did you feel before you got to go to the zoo? Were you excited, happy, etc.?"*)

They say they want to go see all of the animals.

Max and Lily: We want to go see all of the animals!

Narrator: (*Narrator prompts, "What types of animals live at the zoo? What is your favorite animal to go see at the zoo?"*)

Max and Lily go to see the elephants. They laugh when an elephant sprays water on its back.

Elephants: (*Students playing elephants pretend to use their arms as trunks to spray water.*)

Max and Lily: (*laugh and clap*) Look at the elephant!

Narrator: (*Narrator could start a discussion about elephants and their different traits. Ask children if they know any facts about elephants. Why do elephants spray water on their backs? What do they use their trunks for? Have they seen elephants at the zoo? What did they do? Have they seen elephants anywhere else?*)

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Narrator: Max and Lily go to see the polar bears. They laugh when a polar bear leaps into a small pond.

Polar Bears: *(Students playing polar bears pretend to swim around and splash.)*

Max and Lily: *(laugh and clap)* Look at the polar bear!

Narrator: *(Narrator could start a discussion with the class about polar bears. Ask children if they know any facts about polar bears. For example, polar bears appear to have white fur, but actually have black skin. Have they seen polar bears at the zoo? What did they do? Where else do polar bears live?)*

Max and Lily go to see the giraffes. They laugh when a giraffe uses its tongue to grab a leaf.

Giraffes: *(Students playing giraffes stand up as tall as they can to act like giraffes.)*

Max and Lily: *(laugh and clap)* Look at the giraffe!

Narrator: *(Narrator could start a discussion about giraffes. Ask children if they know any facts about giraffes. How long is a giraffe's tongue? (21 inches!) Have they seen giraffes at the zoo? What did they do? Where else might giraffes live? What do they eat?)*

Max and Lily go to see the monkeys. They laugh when a monkey uses its tail to swing from branch to branch.

Monkeys: *(Students playing monkeys jump around and make monkey noises.)*

Max and Lily: *(laugh and clap)* Look at the monkeys!

Narrator: *(Narrator could start a discussion about monkeys here. Ask children if they know any interesting facts about monkeys. For example, monkeys don't eat the peels on their bananas. Have they seen monkeys at the zoo? How did they act? Where else might monkeys live? What do they eat? Use this as an opportunity to teach about monkeys.)*

Max and Lily go to see the lions. They laugh when a lion cub tries to roar.

Lions: *(Students playing lions try to roar.)*

Max and Lily: *(laugh and clap)* Look at the lion!

Narrator: *(Narrator could start a discussion about lions. Have they seen lions at the zoo? What did they do? Where else do lions live?)*

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Narrator: Max and Lily go to see the kangaroos. They laugh when a joey jumps into its mother's pouch.

Kangaroos: *(Students playing kangaroos jump around and act like kangaroos.)*

Max and Lily: *(laugh and clap)* Look at the kangaroo!

Narrator: *(Narrator could prompt, "Do you know what a joey is? Do any other animals have pouches for their babies? What are some other names for baby animals?")*

Max and Lily go to get a treat. They each say they want a blue snow cone.

Max and Lily: I want a blue snow cone!

Narrator: They laugh when their tongues turn blue.

Max and Lily: *(Laugh and stick out their tongues.)*

Narrator: Soon it is time for Max and Lily to go home.

Max and Lily say they had fun at the zoo. They want to come back soon and see more animals.

Max and Lily: We had fun at the zoo!

Narrator: *(Ask students, "Did you have fun at the zoo today? What animals do you want to see next time we go to the zoo?")*

THE END