

Lamont Books

2014

Teacher Notes and Activities

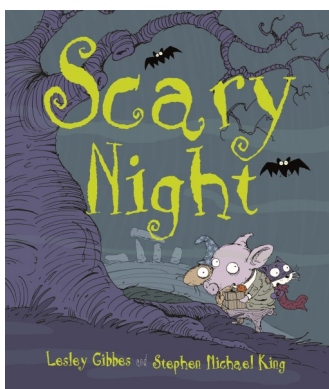
Scary Night

By Lesley Gibbes & Illustrated by Stephen Michael King

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Once upon a scary night three friends set out on a journey. Hare with hat. Cat with a cake and Pig with Parcel. But where are they going in the dead of the night, tip-toe creeping in the pale moonlight? It is a mystery! And it is scary! On the way they have to cross over creeks and pass cool and rocky caves. But they never give up – until, at last, the mystery is solved.



Teacher notes have been amended from those supplied by the publisher, Working Title Press. A full version is available from their website, www.workingtitlepress.com.au

Discussion Points and Activities:

- Give the children time to look at the pictures, make their own observations, ask questions, and reflect on what might be happening in the story. Help the children to create their own 'sense' of the story. Take time to let the children linger over each page, or move on when they are ready .
- Share your own reflections with the children. Talk about how the characters look on each page and what they are doing. Point out some aspects of the pictures that might make the characters feel scared.
- Observe the children as you are reading – are they listening with anticipation about what is going to happen? Are they scared? Can you make the reading scary and funny at the same time?
- Help the children find the rhythm and pattern of the story, prompting them to join in with certain phrases - *Over hill and over dale, through the woods and down the trail.*
- Ask the children about what the characters are carrying at the start of the story. Ask the children where they think Hare, Cat and Pig might be going with these.
- Ask the children why they think the friends are going out at night. Write down their answers.
- Encourage the children to tell and illustrate their own scary night stories.
- Find words and phrases in the story that describe the characters' sense of fear. Look at the font in the story. How does the way that the text is used extend our response to the story? Make a list for display using shaky, big and little words and phrases.
- Talk about how the illustrations create atmosphere and emotion. Talk about how the illustrator shows the difference between the scary parts of the book and the relaxed and happy ending.
- Ask the children to write and illustrate their own scary stories.
- The children can create their own characters. Make the characters look scared, happy, roaring and screaming. The children can look carefully at the pictures to get some drawing tips about facial expression and body language.
- Create pictures using Stephen Michael King's techniques. Do the drawing first with crayon or waterproof ink and then using different sized paint brushes, add watercolour paint over the top.