

Little Blue Truck

by Alice Schertle

Animal noises and rhythmic poetry help tell the story of a loyal and lovable little blue truck, his animal friends and about a big yellow truck that doesn't even have time to say hello.



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, *What would you do if you saw some animals stuck in the mud?* 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 how the frog is driving the truck?

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 *Little Blue Truck*

- swerve: to make a sudden change in direction
- muck: sticky, soft moist dirt
- mire: an area of very marshy ground or deep slushy mud
- gallop: fastest pace of a horse in which all four feet are off the ground at the same time
- budge: to move

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- What noises did the animals and the blue truck make?
- What kind of animals did the blue truck say hello to?
- Why did the yellow truck not say hello to the animals?
- What happened to the yellow truck?
- Why didn't the animals help the yellow truck get unstuck?
- Who helped the yellow truck?
- What happened to the blue truck?
- How did the animals get the trucks unstuck?
- How did that make the yellow truck feel to be unstuck?

Do

Rhyme Time

After reading the story, choose several words from the rhyming word list below and have the children think of new words that rhyme. For example, blue/shoe/two/new, etc.

Rhyming Words List from Little Blue Truck

Purred/heard/ _____

Road/toad/ _____

Eye/bye/ _____

Blue/moo/ _____

Beep/peep/ _____

Duck/truck/ _____

Through/do/ _____

Day/way/ _____

Curve/swerve/ _____

Truck/stuck/ _____

Tire/mire/ _____

Scared/cared/ _____

Bump/dump/ _____

Might/tight/ _____

Horse/course/ _____

Three/fee/ _____

Depends/friends/ _____

Ride/inside/ _____