

Duck & Goose

by Tad Hills

This Caldecott Honor author and his feathered heroes enact this dialog, familiar to anyone who has negotiated with siblings or playground rivals.



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, *Why do you think the duck and goose thought this was an egg?* 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 why the duck and goose are sitting on top of the ball?

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 *Duck & Goose*

- skyward: upward, toward the sky
- webbed: joined by skin membrane
- scolded: to criticize someone
- whispered: speak very quietly so that others cannot hear
- disturbing: upset someone
- snooze: sleep for short period during the day
- occupant: resident, tenant, renter
- flurry: short period of activity
- fussing: unnecessary worry or excitement about something
- grunting: short sound in throat and nose
- groaning: make long low sound
- scoot: dart away quickly
- disturb: interrupt or upset someone
- burp: make noise when air from stomach leaves mouth
- boasted: talk proudly
- waddle: move from side to side while walking
- pitter-patter: the sound of rain falling on hard surface
- nodded: move head showing you agree or understand
- squawked: loud harsh cry
- confusion: a feeling that you do not understand something
- attention: interest / thought
- moment: very short period of time
- apologized: say sorry for doing something wrong
- gulped: swallow food or drink quickly
- squishier: press hard on person or soft object
- suspicious: believing someone or something cannot be trusted
- keeper: someone or something valuable and worth keeping
- swayed: move gently from side to side

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- Who saw the egg/ball first? Who touched it first?
- Why do Duck and Goose have webbed feet?
- What did Duck and Goose decide to do with the egg/ball?
- What kind of sound does a duck make? A goose? What sounds were they going to teach the baby to make? What else were they going to teach it?
- What did Duck and Goose do to pass the time? What did they share to eat?
- Why did Duck and Goose think they felt something kick inside the egg/ball?
- Who kicked the ball? Why?
- Who told Duck and Goose that it was a ball? How?



Do

“Who Is Inside?”

To prepare for this listening skills activity, find a piece of large equipment such as a jungle gym to serve as the bird house. Cover it with a large blanket. To play the game one child looks away from the group or covers his/her eyes. A second child should go into the bird house. The first child says, “Who is inside?” The second child replies, “I am inside the bird house.” Then the first child tries to guess who is in the bird house by recognizing the voice. Other clues may be asked for, if voice alone does not work.