

Is Your Mama a Llama?

by Deborah Guarino

Whimsical rhyming riddles help Lloyd, the baby llama, guess what kind of animal everyone's mama really is.



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, *This book uses riddles to help Lloyd, the baby llama, figure out what kind of animal everyone's mama is. Riddles are like poems that have clues.* 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 if the baby llama and the owl are talking about their mamas?

During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations and ask questions. Spend time thinking of more words that rhyme with those in the story (Dave, gave, cave, rave, save, wave, etc.). 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 *Is Your Mama a Llama?*

- behave: to act in a particular way
- politely: showing good manners
- explained: to give details about something
- grazes: to eat grass in a field
- replied: answered
- flippers: a broad flat limb used for swimming
- responded: answered
- hind: the back part of something
- lashes: short stiff hair that grows in a row from the edge of the eyelid
- herd: a large group of animals that live and travel as a group

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- Where do bats live?
- Does a swan have a short or long neck? Are swans always white?
- What else does a cow eat besides grass?
- Why do animals that live in the water need flippers?
- How do you think it would feel to ride in the pocket of a mama kangaroo?
- What other animals do llamas look like?

Do

Guess the Animal!

Copy the attached Is Your Mama a Llama? Riddle Cards. Cut the cards apart and put in a hat. Ask each child to draw a card from the hat. Read the clue on the card and ask the child to guess the animal. Think of more words that rhyme!

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My Name: _____

Is Your Mama a Llama? Riddle Cards

<p>She hangs by her feet, and she lives in a cave. Hint: rhymes with "that" My mama is a _____ .</p>	<p>She has a long neck and white feathers and wings. Hint: rhymes with "on" My mama is a _____ .</p>
<p>She grazes on grass, and she likes to say, "Moo!" Hint: rhymes with "now" My mama is a _____ .</p>	<p>She's got flippers and whiskers and eats fish all day. Hint: rhymes with "feel" My mama is a _____ .</p>
<p>She's got big hind legs and a pocket for me. Hint: rhymes with "true" My mama is a _____ .</p>	<p>She's got big ears, long lashes and fur. Hint: rhymes with "mama" My mama is a _____ .</p>

