

My Monster Mama Loves Me So

by Laura Leuck

A bedtime favorite with rhyming verse describing the many ways a green, googly-eyed mother shows her boundless love.



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 is really funny and the illustrations are great. There are creatures hidden everywhere!* 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 what it would be like to have three eyeballs?

During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations and ask questions. Spend time studying the illustrations and searching for all the little creatures, especially the snake. 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 *My Monster Mama Loves Me So*

- tweaks: to pinch gently with affection
- frightened: scared
- disappear: to vanish from sight
- cozy: warm and comfortable
- blaze: a fire
- Milky Way: a faint band of light in the sky at night
- shriek: a high-pitched loud sound
- moan: a long low sound that expresses pain or misery
- creep: to move quietly along close to the ground

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- Do you brush your fangs every day?
- What would be in a people cookie instead of bugs?
- Do you think lizard juice with ice would be like orange juice or 7-Up?
- What would be the best thing about swimming in a swamp? The worst?
- Do you suppose beastball is just like baseball?
- What other things are fun to do on rainy, windy, stormy days?
- Does your mama sing to you? Is there a special song she always sings?
- A pet spider! Hmmm...what are some other pets that a monster might have?

M is for My Monster Mama

Initial sounds that are repeated are called alliterations. To build awareness of the initial sounds in words, read and recite rhymes that include alliterative phrases such as the following:

My Monster Mama

Trip trap, trip trap

Fee, fie, fo, fum

Peter, Peter pumpkineater

Clip, clop, clip, clop

Hip-hip- hooray

Tic tack toe

Wee Willie Winkie

Meenie miney moe

Fine feathered friends

You can read and recite these phrases throughout the day at greeting, snack, small group, large group, rest and story time. Make up more of your own!