



Goodnight Gorilla

<p>Before the meeting, set up the room. Make sure there are enough chairs for everyone, a book, and pencil at each place.</p>	
<p>Welcome members as they come in. Remind them to check their names on the roster. While you are waiting for everyone to arrive, talk about the library challenge. Did anyone read a new book by Eric Carle? Note participation on the roster. Encourage the parents to share their experiences. Make a list of titles the parents enjoyed on the board or to a sheet of paper to share.</p>	5 min.
<p>Model reading the story. During the reading:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Talk to the parents about where to keep books for their child. Remember that to a child, a book is a toy. It's a good idea to keep some of your child's books with their toys so that they can choose to "play" with a book. Babies will soon recognize and point out their favorite books to be read. Model how you would share this book with a child. <u>Good Night Gorilla</u> is a good book for active play time because there is so much to see and talk about in the pictures. There are very few words, but that doesn't mean there isn't a great story! 2) For very young babies, parents can name the animals and narrate the action on each page. 3) For toddlers, Ask children to describe what they see in the illustrations and what is happening. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who is the man with the flashlight? What does he do? • What time of day is it, daytime or nighttime? • Where are the animals going as they get out of their cages? • Why are two pages all black with surprised eyes? • Who takes the animals back to the zoo? • What happens next? 4) This book is very funny. Encourage the parents to share the joke with their children. Should the animals be coming to sleep in the house? Why doesn't that make sense? Parents will easily identify with the zookeeper who is so sleepy he didn't notice all the animals following him! 	10 min.

5) Remind parents to affirm that they will read to their child every day.	
<p>Discussion (below are some thoughts, but encourage parents to come up with their own ideas):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 📖 Ask: “Why do you think we chose this book?” 📖 Ask: “What would you like your child to notice about this book?” 📖 This book has limited words. It would be another great title to translate into Spanish if you have Spanish speakers in your household. 📖 Discuss when a good time to read a book like this is (When baby is alert and awake.) This book is a great tool for interacting with baby. Books with soothing language and rhyme are better for bedtime. 	15 min.

Facilitator Tips:

- 📖 Remind parents of the importance of using their voice to convey meaning, excitement and fun in the story. Encourage them to be creative on the page where all the animas say goodnight. What would an elephant’s voice sound like? A Hyena’s? A mouse? This is an opportunity to “ham it up.”
- 📖 As you read to you baby regularly, you will notice that at about a year old, they will start to show pre reading behaviors:
 - Point to the pictures
 - Try to turn the pages
 - Become fussy when the book is not the one they want to read
 - Try to say words while you are reading

Library Challenge: This month’s challenge is attend a story time with your son or daughter. Google APL storytime for dates and times. If there is not a storytime when you can be there, try a local bookstore. They often have story time on Saturday morning. Listen carefully to the storyteller and notice the way their voice changes to reflect the characters in the book. When do they pause to ask questions or make observations? How does this change affect the children who are listening to the story?

Materials to send home with parents:

- 📖 Parent handout