

HOW DO DINOSAURS SAY GOOD NIGHT?

HOW DO DINOSAURS SAY GOOD NIGHT?

by Jane Yolen, illustrated by Mark Teague

Themes: Families, Fantasy and Imagination, Feelings, Poetry

Grade Level: PreK–2 (ages 4 to 6)

Running time: approx. 8 minutes

SUMMARY

In this imaginary childhood world, dinosaurs are large beasts who loom over their human parents—but who have perfect manners when it's time to go to bed. The humor comes from the long dinosaur demonstration of things that dinosaurs never do. The words of this poetry program are simple and few; the pictures are full of funny details and warm family feelings.

OBJECTIVES

- Children will watch and listen to a funny bedtime poem.
- Children will identify the names of various dinosaurs.
- Children will identify rhyming words and matching sounds.
- Children will learn how they should behave at bedtime.

BEFORE VIEWING ACTIVITIES

Introduce the title of the program and make sure children know what dinosaurs are. Then ask children to imagine that they can turn themselves into dinosaurs. Ask children to share what they think would be some good things and bad things about becoming a dinosaur. What would it be like to be as big as a dinosaur? What would happen when it was time to say good night?

AFTER VIEWING ACTIVITIES

Children will probably want to hear the poem again and again. Encourage them to act out the words as they watch the movie. You might want to pause the program at spots that show the body language of the dinosaurs. Point out the specific words that tell what the dinosaurs are doing. The poem also makes a wonderful play for classroom performances.

Connect the story to social studies by talking about rules inside families, especially rules about going to bed. Ask children to identify specifically the behaviors that are not good at bedtime.

To connect the program to science, pause the program at key points and ask children to describe the characteristics of the various dinosaurs. Have them compare the dinosaurs to each other in terms of size, types of teeth, tails and horns, and other characteristics. Encourage children to identify the dinosaur names that appear throughout the program. Show them how to find books that have pictures of what scientists think the dinosaurs looked like.

Connect the story to both literature and art by encouraging children to write and perform their own stories about dinosaurs. Using a dollhouse, model dinosaurs and a camera, children can even help produce original multimedia programs.

Other related videos and films available from Weston Woods include:

GOOD NIGHT, GORILLA, by Peggy Rathmann

IN THE NIGHT KITCHEN, by Maurice Sendak

CALL 1-800-243-5020 TO ORDER THESE AND OTHER WESTON WOODS VIDEOS!

This guide may be photocopied for free distribution without restriction