



Storytime Activity Guide

Flashlight

Story and Illustrations by Lizi Boyd

In this wordless picture book, a young child goes on a nighttime adventure and discovers forest creatures with their flashlight. When the child drops the flashlight, it's the animals turn to learn about the child and help them find their way back to the tent.

Did you know?

Asking questions about what will happen next, comparing ideas, and making predictions are all parts of developing **critical thinking** skills! Let your child practice making predictions and asking questions as you read *Flashlight* together.

Talk about it!

- Why are most of the pages in black and white? Why are some parts of each page in color?
- In the middle of the book, the child shines the flashlight on some partially eaten apples. Which animal do you think ate the apples? Why do you think so?
- The child meets a lot of animals on their walk. If you could meet any animal, what animal would it be?

Play: Twenty Questions

Practice **critical thinking** with a *Twenty Questions* guessing game! This game requires at least two players.

1. Player #1 chooses a 'pretend' location for themselves. It could be the grocery store, the library, a jungle, the circus, or anywhere else you can imagine. They quietly think about all the different things they would see there, but don't tell the other players where they chose.
2. Other players ask up to 20 yes or no questions (e.g., Is it warm? Does this place have tigers? Do you see toys in this place?) and use the answers to try and guess the place.
3. If players are not able to guess the answer after 20 questions, the answer is revealed and someone else gets a turn to pick a new place.

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Create!

In *Flashlight*, the child is in a forest and meets lots of forest animals, but can only see one or two things at a time. Create your own drawing where only a little bit can be seen at a time.

Materials needed:

- Child safety scissors,
- Crayons
- Construction paper or blank paper

1. First, use the blank piece of paper and crayons to draw a colorful picture. Make a lot of the drawings smaller than a quarter. For example, our picture includes trees, birds, and animals that are a little smaller than the size of a quarter.
2. Use the child safety scissors to cut a quarter-sized hole in your construction paper. Tip: Use a crayon to draw a circle shape and fold the paper in half when cutting.
3. Place the construction paper on top of your drawing.
4. Move your construction paper around to reveal the different drawings underneath. Talk about what you see! How does seeing only a small part of the picture change things?
5. Create as many more drawings as you want and repeat.

