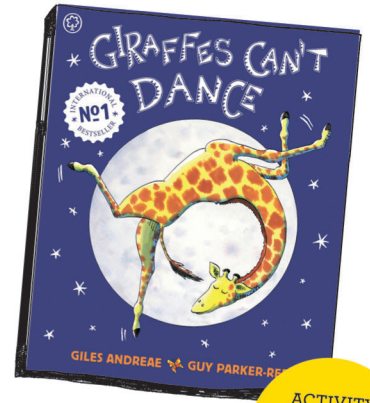


WORLD BOOK DAY IDEAS



ACTIVITY
IDEAS
for
Early Years

GIRAFFES CAN'T DANCE by Giles Andreae & Guy Parker-Rees

Published by Orchard Books

PREPARATION

Costume ideas

- Encourage children to come dressed as giraffes or other African animals from the story, such as zebras, lions, rhinos, chimps or elephants.
- **Optional activity:** Children could be encouraged to donate £1 to dress up, to fundraise for Book Aid International bookaid.org/worldbookday

Things that could be set up in a classroom

- Create an African Explorers role-play area with African animal toys or photos, binoculars, safari hats, non-fiction books and checklists of African animals seen.
- Create a stage area for the children's own Jungle Dance. Create a space for children to perform and watch. A music player could also be provided for children to choose and play music of their choice.

THE DAY ITSELF

Start of the Day

- Introduce what World Book Day is to the children and read *Giraffes Can't Dance* together.
- Encourage the children to listen carefully to the story and identify rhyming words. Also discuss and explain new words heard in the story.

Morning activity ideas

- Encourage children to act out the story, creating movements for the different parts of the story. Encourage the children to create different facial expressions and movements to show Gerald's feelings and the story events.
- Have a Jungle Dance and encourage the children to explore different ways of dancing and moving to music.

Lunch/snack time ideas

- Decorate some bananas with chocolate chips or icing to look like a giraffe. Encourage the children to help decorate the bananas and take a photo of their creation before eating.

Afternoon activity ideas

- Encourage the children to make model giraffes using playdough, junk modelling materials or construction toys.
- Make some movable giraffes using card and split pins to fasten the legs. Encourage children to decorate and join the pieces together and then make their giraffe model dance!

To end the day

- Talk about the children's favourite parts of the story and why they like them.
- The story could be performed to another class or a visitor. Encourage the children to use movements and facial expressions to enhance the story.

HOME LEARNING

- Encourage children to tell the story to someone at home and talk about their favourite part.
- Children could find out some facts about giraffes to share with the group.
- Encourage parents to visit their local bookshop with their children to redeem their £1 World Book Day book token if they have one, to get a FREE World Book Day book.