



Learning Ideas

Goodnight World – Animals of the Native Northwest

“Animals are highly respected in our culture and featured in our traditions. They are part of our stories, dances, songs, and in our dreams”

Francis Horne Sr., Coast Salish

This board book is appropriate for infants, toddlers and preschoolers, depending on how the reader chooses to tell the story. The book flows easily with words and actions familiar to young children. The repetition of **“Goodnight”** on each page supports children in retelling the story as well as helping them recognize the word in print.

Reading Hints:

With younger children: This book does not have to be read in order, or page by page. Encourage your infant or toddler to hold the book and turn to pictures they find most interesting. Help your child point to and name the animal, bird or insect. Make that creature’s sound too.

With older children: Each page contains an action word ending in “ing”. Verbs are more difficult to learn than objects because they are not concrete or highlighted as frequently as nouns. Emphasize verbs by saying them a little more loudly or slowly as you read. Show the action (e.g. *flying* – flap your arms). Use unfamiliar action words from the story frequently throughout the child’s day. This will help them understand the meaning of the word in different situations, and they will learn to say it.



Story-related Play

Move like animals in the book. Stretch your wings like the butterfly. Rock your body like sea creatures rolling in the waves. Creep slowly like a turtle; tuck your head, arms and legs under your body as if it was a turtle shell.

Ask children to act out *Goodnight World* while it is being read. Children could act out all the parts simultaneously as a group, or each child could take on a unique role and listen for their character to appear in the story. As well, one child could act out each story character for others in the group, or you, to imitate.