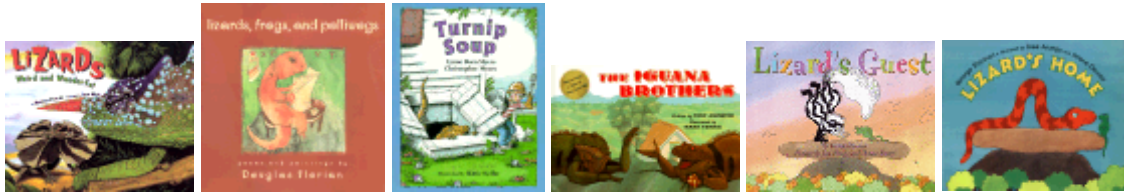


Lizards in the Library: Stories for your reptilian fans!



Titles:

Lizards Weird and Wonderful by Marjorie Facklam

This non-fiction lizardry wizardry will be a fun look at the reptiles in your storytime.

Lizards, Frogs, and Polliwogs by Douglas Florian

A collection of humorous poems about such reptiles and amphibians as the glass frog, the gecko, and the rattlesnake.

Turnip Soup by Christopher A. Myers

George faces a troublesome Komodo dragon that has slithered into his family's root cellar and is eating all their vegetables.

The Iguana Brothers by Tony Johnston

Dom and Tom, the iguana brothers, eat flowers, pretend to be dinosaurs, and discover that they can be best friends.

A Color of His Own by Leo Lionni

A little chameleon is distressed that he doesn't have his own color like other animals.

Lizard's Home by George Shannon

When Snake starts sleeping on the rock where Lizard lives, Lizard must figure out how to get his home back.

Lizard's Guest by George Shannon

While dancing around, Lizard accidentally steps on Skunk's toes and then promises to take care of lazy Skunk until his foot is healed.

Extensions:

Our letter shapes have l for Iguana! Borrow the set and see how many reptiles you can create; l for lizard, c for chameleon, d for dragon; what sound goes with the g in gila monster? (hee-la)

Easy Craft:

Create washable paint lizard scales and patterns by cutting lizard shapes and painting with open plastic shapes such as bubble wrap/soda rings/netting/fly swatters/bubble wands. Idea inspired by Preschool crafts: <http://www.preschooleducation.com/areptile.shtml>

Simple Finger Play:

Two lazy lizards lounging on a tree;
(hold both hands up)

One named Jennie;
(hold up one hand)

The other named Lee
(hold up the other hand)

scoot off Jennie; scoot off
(hands behind back)

Come back Jennie, Come back Lee.
(hands back in front)
(Another revision of *Two Little Blackbirds*)

Poetry Corner:

Lizard lovers won't have to worry about being The Komodo Dragon's favorite meal, but they will find the poem in *Lizards, Frogs and Polliwogs* quite tasty. For more information on Douglas Florian check out the Book Links article from May 2006.

<http://www.ala.org/ala/booklinksbucket/florianhtml.cfm>

Reader's Theater:

If you have older children to help tell this Indonesian tale about some tricky geckos you'll have fun with this turtle and rabbit style tale: <http://www.asiaeducation.edu.au/catalog/readers.htm>

Early Literacy Skills

Language and vocabulary: There are many kinds of lizards from gecko to dragon, iguana to gila. These are words that interested listeners will remember!

Phonological Awareness: Lizard is a word that plays as you say it: rhyme it, play with the z? If you're lucky you'll have a Liz who's a whiz you know.

Letter knowledge: L leads the day today.

Print Awareness: Florian is the master of print on a page that tells the story. Take a look at *The Python* and *The Gecko* in *Lizards, Frogs and Polliwogs*.

Narrative Skills: What happens in Lizard's Home? Who arrives at Lizard's rock first? Who comes next? Look at the picture on the last page; is lizard really safe?

Print Motivation: Sharing some non-fiction books in storytime can be a lesson in how to use parts of a book; how to browse, and how-to choose a great book to take home to be read aloud again and again.