

Leader's Guide

Giraffes Can't Dance by Giles Andreae and illustrated by Guy Parker-Rees

This book is available from www.amazon.com

Objectives:

In addition to the overall objectives for Book in a Bag, children will:

- Identify dancing as a form of physical activity.
- Learn dances representing various cultures.
- Learn how to be active each day.

Lesson Outline:

1. Review supporting materials and *Giraffes Can't Dance*.
2. Develop lesson plan for day's activity.
3. Review supplies and equipment needed for activity. Make copies of recipes and "A Look at Our Book: Parent's Page" as needed. If desired, attach a recipe "card" to each Parent's Page.
4. Prepare evaluation tool you will use with children.
5. Arrive early – be sure to encourage handwashing before activity.
6. Read book with children. Ask questions to facilitate discussion.
7. Lead activity. Encourage all children to participate.
8. Incorporate physical activity into lesson.
9. Assist children in completing evaluation tool.
10. Distribute pages for take-home, as appropriate.

Questions to Facilitate Discussion:

- What was held every year in Africa? (Jungle Dance)
- Name a dance that the animals tried at the Jungle Dance. (waltz, rock 'n' roll, tango, cha-cha, or Scottish reel)
- What happened when Gerald walked on the dance floor? (The animals laughed and said giraffes can't dance.)
- Who encouraged Gerald to dance? (Cricket)
- What happened after Gerald started dancing? (Animals came from the jungle dance to watch.)
- After Gerald finished his dance, what did the animals do? (Cheered and asked Gerald how he could dance like that.)
- What did Gerald learn about dancing? (Everyone can dance, when they find music they love.)
- What would be an occasion where there might be a dance? Have you ever attended one of these occasions? (wedding, bat mitzvah, school dance, competition, birthday, etc.)

Other Related Children's Books:

The Bouncing, Dancing, Galloping ABC by Charlotte Doyle

Bug Dance by Stuart J. Murphy

Princess Fidgety Feet by Pat Posner

Rap a Tap Tap: Here's Bojangles – Think of That! by Leo Dillon