

# ANGUS AND THE DUCKS

## ANGUS AND THE DUCKS

Based on the book by Marjorie Flack ©1930

(Doubleday, Doran & Company, Inc.)

Themes: Animals/Curiosity

Grade Level: PreK - 2

Running Time: 12 minutes

### SUMMARY

One day, Angus, a curious little terrier, finds out about the strange noises coming from the other side of the hedge.

### OBJECTIVES

- Children will learn about animal sounds and behaviors.
- Children will come to appreciate the clever, repetitive use of language.
- Children will understand that the use of physical power is not the best way to solve a problem.

### BEFORE VIEWING ACTIVITIES

Talk with children about pets they may have. Encourage them to discuss their pets' behaviors and the foods they eat. In particular, encourage children to talk about the personalities of their pets and the way these pets exhibit these personalities.

Encourage children to discuss the kinds of things they are curious about. Ask: What did you do to satisfy your curiosity? When you found out what you were curious about, was it what you expected? How was it different? What is the hardest thing about being curious about something?

Share the book **Angus and the Ducks** with children. Then ask:

- What was Angus curious about?
- How did Angus satisfy his curiosity?
- What did Angus do to solve his problem with the ducks? Did this work? Why not?
- What do you think Angus will do about his curiosities from now on?

### AFTER VIEWING ACTIVITIES

Talk with children about the different sounds Angus and the ducks make in the story. Visit your school or local library and select cassettes and or CDs that include animal sounds. Play the tapes and CDs for children and see if they can identify the animal sounds they hear. Later, discuss the ways animals use sound to signal happiness, distress, or sadness. See if children can imitate some of these animal sounds.

Talk with children about the way Angus satisfied his curiosity in the story. Then ask:

- What else could Angus have done to investigate the world beyond the hedge?
- What was wrong with the way Angus behaved with the ducks?
- What could Angus have done to make friends with the ducks?
- How would the end of the story be different if Angus had made friends with the ducks?

If possible, visit a pet shop or petting zoo with children. Encourage children to note the different sounds and behaviors of the animals. Have children watch for the ways the animals try to communicate with one another, indicate hunger or distress, make sounds and exhibit behaviors when they want to be playful.

Have children dramatize the story of **Angus and the Ducks**, alternating the parts of the dog, the ducks and the dog owners while you narrate.

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