

Where is the Green Sheep?

By Mem Fox, illustrated by Judy Horacek

Mem Fox and Judy Horacek take the reader on a delightful fantasy journey looking for the green sheep. We met all sorts of sheep, up and down sheep, wide and thin sheep, red and blue sheep, swing and slide sheep - but where is the green sheep? Just as the reader gives up hope of ever finding the green sheep, we discover it hidden on the last page.

Literacy

Read through the story and find all the words that are opposites. Develop a set of word cards using these terms, e.g.

Blue	Red	Bath	Bed
Thin	Wide	Swing	Slide
Up	Down	Band	Clown
Sun	Rain	Car	Train
Wind	Wave	Scared	Brave
Near	Far	Moon	Star

Music

Tone colour

Discuss what each of the words means and possible sounds that could be created to represent each word. Using body percussion, vocal sounds, found instruments and/or classroom instruments, create sounds and movements to represent each of the words. Use these as the book is read, playing the sounds at the appropriate text.

Visual Arts

Working in pairs, have children design and create sheep doing the different activities shown in the pictures. Use collage, plasticine, clay, paint, junk materials, etc to create the context and the different sheep. Write a sentence describing the media used and what the artwork is describing and display this alongside the artwork.

Drama

Using the flashcards based on the words in the text, have children create movements to show the meaning of each word as it is shown. Have each pair of children take one pair of words and show through their movements the contrasting meanings of each of the two words.

Dance

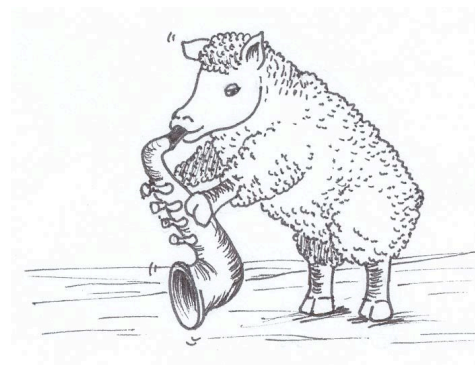
In groups, select four pairs of the above words and, to music with a strong beat, have children create a simple set of dance movements to illustrate each one, e.g.

4 beats	Up
4 beats	Down
4 beats	Swing
4 beats	Slide
4 beats	Band
4 beats	Clown
4 beats	Scared
4 beats	Brave

Repeat this sequence of movements using contrasting levels, body shapes, floor patterns and locomotor/non-locomotor movements.

Add an introduction and a strong ending.

Share the dances with each other for comments and reflection on the effective use of the elements.



Music

Structure

Based on the text of the book, make up a simple song, using a known tune, e.g. to the tune *Are you sleeping / Frere Jacques*:

- Here is blue sheep, here is blue sheep,
Red sheep's here, red sheep's here.
Where is the green sheep? Where is the green sheep?
We don't know. We don't know.*
- Here is bath sheep, here is bath sheep,
Bed sheep's here, bed sheep's here.
Where is the green sheep? Where is the green sheep?
We don't know. We don't know.*
- Here is thin sheep, here is thin sheep,
Wide sheep's here, wide sheep's here,
Where is the green sheep? Where is the green sheep?
We don't know. We don't know.*



4. *Here is swing sheep, here is swing sheep,
Slide sheep's here, slide sheep's here,
Where is the green sheep? Where is the green sheep?
We don't know. We don't know.*



5. *Here is up sheep, here is up sheep,
Down sheep's here, down sheep's here,
Where is the green sheep? Where is the green sheep?
We don't know. We don't know.*

6. *Here is band sheep, here is band sheep,
Clown sheep's here, clown sheep's here,
Where is the green sheep? Where is the green sheep?
We don't know. We don't know.*

7. *Here is sun sheep, here is sun sheep,
Rain sheep's here, rain sheep's here,
Where is the green sheep? Where is the green sheep?
We don't know. We don't know.*



8. *Here is car sheep, here is car sheep,
Train sheep's here, train sheep's here,
Where is the green sheep? Where is the green sheep?
We don't know. We don't know.*

9. *Here is wind sheep, here is wind sheep,
Wave sheep's here, wave sheep's here,
Where is the green sheep? Where is the green sheep?
We don't know. We don't know.*



10. *Here is scared sheep, here is scared sheep,
Brave sheep's here, brave sheep's here,
Where is the green sheep? Where is the green sheep?
We don't know. We don't know.*

11. *Here is near sheep, here is near sheep,
Far sheep's here, far sheep's here,
Where is the green sheep? Where is the green sheep?
We don't know. We don't know.*

12. *Here is moon sheep, here is moon sheep,
Star sheep's here, star sheep's here,
Where is the green sheep? Where is the green sheep?*



We don't know. We don't know.

13. *We've found green sheep, we've found green sheep,
Take a peep, take a peep,
Turn the page quietly, turn the page quietly,
He's fast asleep, fast asleep.*

Tone colour

Use the instruments and sounds created in the previous music activity to accompany the relevant verses.

Dynamics

Decide which lines should be sung loudly, medium or softly and sing the song through showing the different dynamic levels.

Alternatively, use three flashcards of a green sheep, one small, one medium and one large, to indicate to the children when to sing softly, medium and loudly.

Mem Fox website: http://www.childrenslit.com/f_memfox.html

