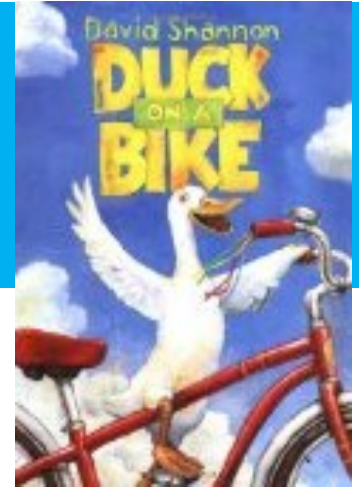# Pre-K Essential Literature
Duck on a Bike
by David Shannon

- Make animal masks from paper plates.

- Make puppets out of paper bag puppets use them to act out the story

- Duck sees the bike at the beginning of the story. What is he thinking?

- Create animal gestures to imitate the cow, duck, pig, goat, and horse

- Choose an animal from the story that they like. Have them to make up gestures they are doing as duck passes.

- Compare duck to the hen. How are they the same and how are they different

- What other bikes can we ride.? What other bikes can animals think about riding?

Farm Animal Sorting

Sorting helps children see how things are placed in groups. What makes things the same and why they should come together are questions many ask themselves. Take some pictures of farm animals and sort them by size and color.

Next sort the animals by the type of feet they have.

Duck Transportation

Bikes can be fun , but like all things that move around, safety is important. Look at pictures of helmets , knee and elbow pads, reflective tape, comfortable clothing, lights, bells and other safety items and discuss why we use each one. Discuss safety rules for bike riding and allow safety rules to be used on the playground with tricycles.

Duck and Animal Feelings

Duck tried something new. At first it was hard, but it got better and helped to build up his confidence. Introduce this concept to your child by placing a length of tape on a row of row of blocks to create a " balance beam" , or even just try to stand on one foot. Afterwards facilitate a discussion about what it felt like to try something new. Ask them to do it a second time to and find out it their experience is different. Was it easier? Was it more fun? How do they feel about their new accomplishment?

Animals all around

Discuss animals that live on a farm. Get a stuffed farm animal and act out it's actions. Compare animals on a farm to animals you would see in a zoo.

Looking beyond the cover: *Duck on a Bike*

About the Author

David Shannon was born in Washington D.C, but he also spent his childhood in Spokane, Washington. In an interview with Sonia Bolle in the Children's Literature Review (CLR), he said, "I loved *Oliver Twist*, but I liked the Artful Dodger more than Oliver. And I always thought the villains in Disney Movies were really cool." Shannon said that this fondness for villains made him realize as a child that "you need both sides for a good story." As a student in high school, he decided early on that he wanted to have a career in an art field. Shannon enjoyed making his own illustrations to books that he was reading in high school. Shannon attended art school at the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, California, and decided to focus on learning about political illustrations. In 1983, Shannon moved to New York City and began working for various magazines and newspapers. Two of his major jobs were for the *New York Times* and the *Book Review*. These jobs brought Shannon's work increased exposure. His first book of illustrations was Julius Lester's *How Many Spots Does a Leopard Have?* (1989).

More Interactive Read Alouds

Interactive read alouds are amazing for emerging, reluctant and non-readers. The music, call and response, repetition, simplicity and other techniques empower children to read these books even before they can really read. They are outstanding for story time.

For close reading, ask children to describe what happens when Duck sees the tractor? Will he ride that? Did he enjoy his ride?

Here's a list of some of our favorite interactive read alouds:
Jump, Frog, Jump! By Robert Kalan
Yo! Yes? By Chris Raschka
Down by the Cool of the Pool by Tony Mitton
Go Away Big Green Monster by Ed Emberley
Press Here by Herve Tullet
Anansi and the Moss Covered Rock by Eric Kimmell

Check it out!

Like *Duck on a Bike?* Here are some other great books to check out at Nashville Public Library about friends:
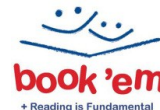
No David

A Bad Case of Stripes

Alice the Fairy

How I Became a Pirate