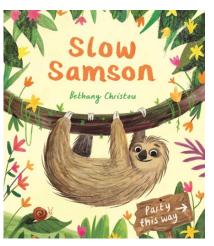
seven stories

The National Centre for Children's Books



EYFS 4

Autumn 2019



Slow Samson

Bethany Christou

Templar

Why We Chose This Book

Samson is a kind and good-hearted friend who just can't manage to be on time. A lovely story about accepting our loved ones as they are and compromising to make room for everyone.

Sharing the Story

Story Signal A regular signal that you could use to establish the story time What routine have you established in your setting?	Create a Slow Animal Strut – show videos of slow animals including snails, worms, snakes, and sloths. Ask them to choose one animal to become. Start at different parts of the room and move towards the storytelling space as your chosen animal.
Way In – The Hook How will you engage them before you start to ready? A way to engage audience before you start to read	Show the children a selection of pre-made party invites. Ask the children to match the invites to the animals on the map of the first page in the book. Have you ever been to a party? What things happen there? What might happen if you moved slowly to a party?
Getting ready to listen / contract in What will you do to remind them it's time to look and listen?	Use a clock and explain different times – 2 o'clock is dancing time – everyone has a dance. 4 o'clock is eating time – everyone pretends to eat. 6 o'clock is watch and listen time – everyone rubs ears, blinks eyes, and settles down for the story.

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The Reading/Telling How will you make the telling lively and interesting? Character voices, volume, pace, tone,	Start story in a calm, slow manner. When things about the parties are mentioned and when Samson starts to hurry – speed up voices and actions.
style.	Dance the conga and sing happy birthday – bring elements of the parties to life.
Participation Which parts of the story will the	Create funny actions and sound effects for the list of ideas that
audience join in with? Questions, talking points, actions, noises etc.	the animals come up with – for example, pretend to be on roller skates, do a countdown for a rocket pack launch, pop imaginary balloons.
Ending – Way Out /Book Talk How will you close the story?	How did the story make you feel at the end? Are there any ways that you can help someone feel better if they are sad and lonely like Samson?

Suggested Activities

Create freeze-frames of friendship. Just like at the end of the book, take some photos of friendship groups, all put hands in for a photo from above, have a party and create a display of the photos.

Just like Samson, ask children to draw a picture of their friend. Ask children to work in pairs – one child strikes a party pose while the other draws. Then they can swap over and give each other their pictures.

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