

John Philip Duck

K-4

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Spoken Arts - 9706

Running Time: 22 minutes

Story Summary

When young Edward first brought his tiny wild duck to the grand hotel where he worked with his Pa, his only thought was to keep it hidden. After all, he just needed a warm place for his little pet to stay during the day. Everyone helped keep his secret. One day, Mr. Schutt, the blustery hotel manager, discovered the duck swimming in the lobby fountain! Surprised but not defeated, Edward showed Mr. Schutt how his duck could perform -- even march to a John Philip Sousa tune! Maybe Edward could train other ducks to do the same. All he needed was Mr. Schutt's okay. But, could he get it in time to save John Philip Duck?

Objectives

Children will make predictions about a story from a picture.

Children will put events in sequential order, to be able to tell a story.

Children will write creative stories.

Before viewing the video

Look at the picture on the cover of the book or video. This story is about a duck. But, what else can you predict about the story from this picture?

Questions to ask after viewing the video

1. Edward was just a boy. Why was he living at the hotel during the week?
2. Where did he find the duck? What do you think had happened to it?
3. Why did Edward hide the duck in the kitchen at the hotel?
4. How did the duck get the name, John Philip Duck?
5. What were the hunter's ducks going to be used for?
6. Why did Big Joe put John Philip into the fountain with the other ducks?
7. What did John Philip do when Edward put on the John Philip Sousa music?
8. Why did Mr. Schutt agree to let Edward train all the ducks?
9. What was the red carpet used for? What did you think it was for, when you looked at the cover of the book?
10. How long was Edward the Duckmaster of the Peabody Hotel?

Activities

1. Make a time line, beginning with the moment Edward found the little duck, through the time he was an old man. Let the children illustrate each time period, and have them tell the story from beginning to end.
2. Although the ducks really do this duck walk at the Peabody Hotel, this is a very unusual thing for ducks to be able to do. Ask the children to imagine other special things an animal could do. Write stories about these unusual animals.
3. Create a picture postcard about the Peabody Hotel. On one side, draw a picture and write a message, telling about the ducks. On the other, put the address.
4. You were asked at the beginning to make a prediction about what would happen in the story based on the cover picture. Draw a completely different picture, write a story about it, and have the other children try to guess what your story is about.