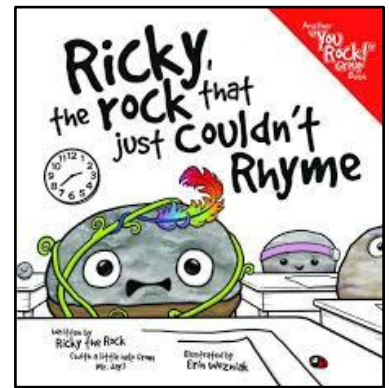


Ricky the Rock That Just Couldn't Rhyme

by Author Jay Miletsky



Activity Guide Created by:
Kale Ralston and Breck Zorn

Book Summary

Ricky's teacher said all the rocks needed to learn how to rhyme, but Ricky didn't think he could rhyme this time. Ricky and his friend went to a farm to show Ricky that rhyming wasn't that hard. Then Ricky saw a red caboose by a big moose on the loose. Ricky the rock didn't think he could rhyme even though he could the whole time. Then his friend showed him he could rhyme, and he turned in the best assignment of all time.

Read Aloud Questions

- Do you know how to make words rhyme? (before reading)
- Why do you think a rock would be rolling through school? (see school page)
- Why did Tess believe in Ricky? (see cheer up page)
- Do you think the farm is far from the school? (see farm page)
- How do you think the moose got loose? (see moose page)
- Did you notice the ladybug? (see presenting page)

Book Activity

Materials:

Rock Characters - rocks, and markers (or paints), googly eyes, glue, and other things to decorate your rock and make it stand out.

Rhyming Game - cut-out of paper shaped rocks (see pages below) and write words from the story on each one that rhymes with words on a set of index cards (these can be rhyming words from the story). The paper rocks can be glued to a long piece of butcher paper to create a "path" for the game.

Directions

Rock Characters:

1. After reading the book, *Ricky the Rock that Just Couldn't Rhyme*, ask them what Ricky learned about himself.
2. Provide each student with a rock to decorate to create their own "Ricky." They may use permanent markers or paints to decorate. Glue googly eyes on the rock and give it a name. These rocks will be used to play the rhyming game.

Rhyming Game:

1. Use index cards that have words written on them from the book that rhyme with words on the paper "rock path" to call out a word.
2. Ask the students to place their rock character on the rock on the rock path that rhymes with the word the teacher just called out from the index cards.
3. Continue until all of the cards/rocks have been matched as a rhyming pair. For an extra challenge, the teacher could call out words that are not in the book and ask the students to provide a rhyming word of their own. Just like Ricky, they are learning to rhyme.
3. After the game ends, ask the student to sit in a circle and talk about their rock's strengths and weaknesses. They may then make up a story about something that their rock character struggles with but has learned to overcome. Challenge them to use rhyming words in their story.



Additional Resources

- [12 Ways to Play with Rocks](#)
- [Explore 12 Amazing Games and Activities with Rocks](#)
- [5 Fun and Engaging Rhyme Games for Kids](#)
- [Rocks for Kids – 15 Fun Activities and Ideas](#)
- [Lesson Plan: Ricky the Rock That Just Couldn't Rhyme \(free\)](#)

Meet the Authors



Breck Zorn is a 7th grader at the Augusta Middle School. Breck enjoys sports, hunting, fishing and being with his friends and family. He especially enjoys football, basketball, and baseball. He has one brother and an Australian Shepard named Nellie. Breck would like to play college football. His career goal is to become a physical therapist. He enjoys participating in writer's notebook every week.

Kale Ralston is a 7th grade student at Augusta Middle School with 4.0 G.P.A. He likes the Arizona Cardinals. He has a family of 4 and he also has a dog. He plans to attend college and hopefully play football. He enjoys doing his writer's notebook every week.

