



Transitions Story: *Giraffes Can't Dance* by Giles Andreae

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mHucnIMb0ss>

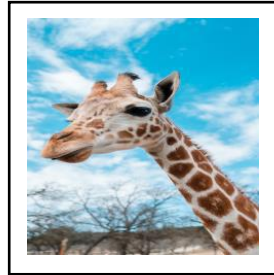


Transitions Principle: Contribution

The story supports courage, pride in who we are and joining in with others. It encourages children to learn about how we are all different and we can all have a try at something, even if we're unsure we can achieve it.

Things to do and explore

- If the children are interested in the different animals, look at non-fiction books and resources online.
- Make up your own dances in the music area. Invite the children to make their own animal masks and perform shows.
- Look at Edinburgh Zoo online, live feed of the new giraffes that have just arrived. Talk about them moving and settling in.
- Talk about comparative size: taller, smaller. I wonder how many of each animal would fit in our nursery? I wonder how many children would be the same height as a giraffe?
- Look at and explore different animal patterns.



Useful Words

dancing, prance, proud, love, can't, together, clumsy, unique, different, music, useless, sad, alone, swaying, hooves, shuffling, swishing

Questions you might ask:

- How do you think Gerald was feeling at the beginning of the story?
- What did the cricket do to help Gerald?
- How do you think Gerald felt at the end of the story after he realised that he could actually dance?
- What music do you like to dance to?
- What things do you do that you are pleased/proud of? I wonder how it makes you feel when you do those things?

Other Ideas

Why not try this fun activity with safari animals and dancing. Enjoy!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HpOe8Ingp_o

Other Resources

[Giles Andreae reads Elephant Me - YouTube](#)
[Star Stories 2 - Giles Andreae reads Be Brave Little](#)

Potential Learning: Es & Os/Midlothian Pathways

Literacy:

- I enjoy exploring events and characters in stories and other texts, sharing my thoughts in different ways **LITO-01c**
- I enjoy exploring events and characters in stories and other texts and I use what I learn to invent my own, sharing these with others in imaginative ways. **LITO-31a**
- I can generate rhyming words (**pathway**)

Numeracy/Maths:

- I have experimented with everyday items as units of measure to investigate and compare sizes and amount in my environment, sharing my findings with others. **MNUO - 11a**
- I have spotted and explored patterns in my own and the wider environment and can copy and continue these and create my own patterns. **MTH 0-13a**

HWB:

- Through contributing my views, time, and talents, I play and take part in bringing about positive change in my school and community. **HWBO - 13a**
- I understand that people can feel alone and can be misunderstood and left out by others. I am learning how to give appropriate support. **HWB 0-08a**
- I am learning how to persevere at something I find tricky (**pathway**)

Expressive Arts

- I have the opportunity and freedom to choose and explore ways that I can move rhythmically, expressively, and playfully **EXA0-08a**