

Novel Resource #6

Never, Ever Shout in a Zoo
Karma Wilson
Little, Brown and Company, 2004
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Karma grew as an only child of a single mother in the wilderness of northern Idaho. Her mother was also a professional writer. Karma began writing children's books at age twenty seven.

Karma Wilson lives with her family in northern Idaho. In addition to children's books, she writes poetry. Her first poem was published at age six. The poem was titled, I Don't Wanna Write a Poem. The title is ironic, because she started out not wanting to have anything to do with writing. Today, she writes poems for living when she is not busy being a wife and mother of three. She enjoys the outdoors, working out, cooking, and kickboxing. Most of all, she loves to write. Her book titled, Bear Snores On, was a NY Times best seller, a winner of the Oppenheim Toy Platinum Award, and an ALA Notable Children's Book.

Karma's books are humorous, and stem from the wilderness (due to her background).

Book Talk:

Never Ever Shout in A Zoo is a funny book about animals in a zoo. In the story, a little girl warns us not to shout in a zoo. If we shout in a zoo, unbelievable things might happen. She tells us what might happen if we scare a bear. If that that happens, a big moose might do something even crazier, If we scare a moose, we might even scare an ape! What do you think will happen to these animals if we shout in a zoo?

Annotation:

Never, Ever Shout in a Zoo is a hilarious story about animals in a zoo. Children who go to the zoo sometimes wonder, and ask what might happen if an animal gets loose. This story captures the imagination of a young child's imagination as they pay a visit to the zoo. The story mentions that if you scare a bear, a he might get loose and charge right through the bars. If a bear gets loose he might scare a big bull moose, may decide he wants to runs loose also. The big bull moose might even scare the apes, and the apes will probably take the zookeepers keys. Soon, all of the creatures in the zoo will be set free, and they may to decide to lock you up! This story is a great example of cause and effect. The children can follow along with the chain reaction of events that occur in the story. In addition to the story itself, the illustrations are eye catching. The illustrations are colorful, and show all the different animal that live in a zoo. The animals have smiles on their faces, which is appropriate for a young child's viewing.

Internal Conflict: The animals get loose because she shouted and the little girl becomes scared.

External Conflict: The animals in the story get loose, and lock up the little girl.

Conflict Resolution: The little girl gets loose, and realizes she should never, ever shout in a zoo!

Genre: humorous fiction

Theme: Never shout in a zoo, because the animals may get loose and lock you up.

Characters: A little girl (no name given), who is mischievous, and curious about what will happen to animals if she shouts in a zoo.



Karma Wilson

Other Books by Karma Wilson:

Bear Snores On

I Will Rejoice

How to Bake an American Pie

Bear Feels Sick

[Http://www.doug-cushman.com](http://www.doug-cushman.com)

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237 Park Avenue

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Illustrator:

Doug Cushman

Doug Cushman was born in Springfield, Ohio, but ended up moving to Connecticut when he was a teenager.

Doug Cushman is from California, and has illustrated for many different authors. He has illustrated more than 100 books for children. He has even written several mysteries for children. Doug Cushman has a yellow lab named Zack, and also has two cats. He attended a private school in Connecticut called the Paier School of Art. He gets his ideas for books from several different places (movies, music, and other everyday activities). When he creates a story he forms the pictures first. He insists that children's books take quite a bit of time, even though they are easy to read. His book titled, The Mystery of King Karfir took three years to put together.

He even had a love for a drawing as a teenager. In high school he made comic books, and sold them to other students and teachers for five cents each.

Other Books Illustrated by Doug Cushman:

Aunt Eater Loves A Mystery by: Doug Cushman

What Dad's Can't Do by: Doug Cushman

Inspector Hopper by: Doug Cushman



Doug Cushman

If you like *Never, Ever Shout in a Zoo*, you'll love:

Animal Train by: Jane Yolen

Aunt Eater Loves a Mystery by: Doug Cushman

Bear Feels Sick by: Karma Wilson

IL: pre-K

RL: 2.3

Setting: The story takes place at a zoo with several caged animals.

Point of view: The story is written in third person, being told by a little girl. The story is definitely told from a child's point of view, and it captures great imagination.

Theme: Do not ever shout in a zoo, because the animals might get loose, and they may try and put you in a cage.

Doug Cushman created colorful pictures, which will capture the attention of young readers. Her choice of medium was watercolors and colored pencils, and she showed great expressions with both. I found it interesting that he chose to put smile on the faces of the animals. This choice of expression is appropriate for the interest level of the book.

Subject Area Connections:

Art: Have students draw a picture of their favorite animal from the zoo. Explain that the illustrator used watercolors and colored pencils in the story. Have them add color to their pictures with colored pencils and water colors.

Language Arts:

Have students research animal on the internet. Have them list at least three facts about the animal. Before doing this activity, read *Giant Animals* by: Howard E. Smith Jr. This book will give students a realistic perspective to animals that live in a zoo.

Activities:

Science:

1.4.3 Explain to students that all plants eat plants or other animal. (work independently) Have students cut four pictures in a *National Geographic* magazine that they may find in a zoo. Have students gather in group of three or four and make a list of the things that each of the animals probably eat.

Reading:

1.1.1 Gather pictures of animal found in a zoo. (Whole group instruction) Post animal pictures on the board, and make a list of the names of the animals (not in order). Have students take turns going up to the board and drawing lines from the animals to the word it is associated with.

Pre-Reading Questions:

1. What do you think might happen if you shout in a zoo?
2. What types of animals live in a zoo?
3. Why are the animals in cages?

During Reading:

1. How much do you think a grizzly bear weighs? Pg. 2
2. What animal caused the moose to get loose? Pg. 8
3. What do you think the zookeeper will do with the keys? Pg. 14

Dreadful: pg. 8 extremely harmful

Disastrous: pg. 8 damaging

Conniving: pg. 11 up to something (mischievous)

Social Studies:

1.3.4 Hold up and pass around a sample map of a zoo. Have students work in pairs and create their own map of a zoo. Allow students to continue using sample map as a guide.

Language Arts:

1.1.4 (Whole Group Instruction) Have students listen as teacher names off animals that live in a zoo. Students will number paper from one to ten. As teacher names each animal, students will write the beginning and ending sound for each animal. (ten animals total)

Science:

1.4.2 Have students do activity about zoo animals (see web site) (whole group instruction) Ask students to share some of the differences between animals that live in a zoo. Write difference on overhead.

Math:

1.3.3. Bring in small plastic animals which can be used to count with. (Whole group instruction) Give students the same number of each animal. Students will demonstrate what addition and subtraction problems teacher gives. (Count out five elephants-now add three giraffes-how many animal do you have now)

Bibliography:

<http://www.magickeys.com/books/zoo/index.html>

Giant Animals by: Howard E. Smith