

The Lion Safari

(An Audience Response Story)

Age group: 6-12
Participants: Unlimited
Space: Indoors or outdoors
Supplies: None

Premise

A group of wildlife photographers are out on a safari in Africa.

Directions

This story needs to be done in front of the group. The leader can stand, sit in a chair, or sit with the group. The main thing is the leader needs to be seen by all members of the group. The leader asks the group if they want to be photographers in Africa going out on a safari. We are here to photograph lions. Of course, they do! Then the group must be careful to follow instructions and all stay together on the hunt for the best picture. They must also be quiet except for their actions and listen for the lion. The leader tells the story, initiating the actions, and gives members of the group time to follow.

Suggested Story

1. Get ready.
2. Go out gate.
3. Start walking down trail.
4. Climb the hill.
5. At top of hill, stop and look all around
6. Walk down the hill.
7. Pass through a grassy field.
8. Jump over a little stream.
9. Walk on.
10. Come to a swamp of mud.
11. Stop, look, listen.

Suggested Action

- Put on your hiking boots, hat, coat, gloves.
Sling the camera over shoulder.
- "Squeak" as gate opens and shuts.
- Sit on floor, slap knees alternately, a quick action.
- Slap knees more slowly.
- Stop slapping knees and put hand on forehead, look to all sides and listen.
- Slap knees a little faster.
- Swish palms of hands together.
- Slap floor in front.
- Slap knees again.
- Press palms together, making suction noise.
- Stop slapping knees and put hand on forehead, look to all sides and listen.

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| 12. Walk slowly over a bridge. | Thump chest with palm of hands. |
| 13. Walk under branches of big trees | Duck head and keep slapping knees. |
| 14. Come to a river and swim across and jump in. | Say "splash" and move arms as in swimming. |
| 15. Hear the crocodiles. | Place palms of hands together and snap fingers open and shut. |
| 16. Climb out of water. | High slapping steps and shake off. |
| 17. Walk a little way and see a lion. | Stop, get out camera. |
| 18. Shoot at lion BUT she starts running... toward you. | Take a picture, look, run, hands slapping very fast on knees. |
| 19. Run home. | The leader reverses the actions in order to get home starting with 16 through 2. |
| 20. Get home and slam the door. | Clap hands sharply. |

The leader then asks, "Do you want to know what happened to the lion?"

Answer: She was running so fast and hard that she bumped into the east gate of the zoo!