



3 LITTLE LEMURS AND THE BIG BAD FOSSA

The fossa, is the lemurs' main predator. They look like a mix between a mountain lion and a weasel. Many kids have never heard of the fossa and they find it fascinating.

A fairy tale titled, "The Three Little Lemurs and the Big Bad Fossa" helps solidify their new knowledge of it.

Now for the lesson!

1. Tell the storyline: *"You're going to write your own version of the Three Little Pigs using lemurs and a fossa."*
2. Discuss a series of facts about lemurs and write the list on the board:
 - They live in Madagascar.*
 - Some lemurs live low to the ground. Some live half way up the forest. Others live in the top canopy of the forest.*
 - Most are diurnal (awake during the day). Some are nocturnal (awake at night).*
 - They stay in groups called 'troops'.*
 - They love to eat fruit.*
 - They forage for food. Forage means to look for food.*
 - They have an opposable thumb, their hands work like a mitten.*
 - They are great climbers.*
 - Their long tail gives them balance.*
 - They can't hang from their tail but can hang from their hands and feet.*
 - They communicate through smell. Their smells give other lemurs information.*
3. Encourage the students to incorporate at least 3 facts into their fairy tale.
4. Discuss materials available to the lemurs in the forest.
 - Leaves of all sizes, fruit, sticks, bamboo etc.*
5. Discuss the elements of a story, characters, time, place, problem and solution
6. Make sure the students know how to spell LEMURS. 😊
7. Show the 5 sections of the story on the board:
 - a. Introduce (Time, Place, Characters)
 - b. Problem
 - c. Lemurs Build
 - d. The Fossa
 - e. Solution/Conclusion



Remember: K-1st Graders are encouraged to write 1 sentence for each section,
2nd Graders 2 sentences, 3rd Graders 3 sentences and so on.

Now to write!

Guide the students through the following steps. They are free to use their own words. Remind them that ANYTHING can happen in their story as long as they follow the steps to keep their story organized. (I've written examples in italics just for your own guidance.)

1. Begin by naming the time, location and characters
Once upon a time, in the land of Madagascar, there lived three baby lemurs with their mama.
2. Write what their mama said to them. Name the problem.
One day, their mama gathered them together and said, "Now little ones. You have grown. It's time for you to forage by yourself and build a safe home to protect you from the fossa."
3. Write what each lemur builds.
4. Write what the fossa does to each lemur.
5. Write the ending of the story. Tell what happens to the fossa and the three lemurs.