

Lesson Plan



Anansi's children are not happy. Monkey and Rat's children do not want to play. But one day, Anansi and his children help Snake.

CEFR Level Pre-A1

YLE Starters

Text type: modern story

Word count: 158

Lexile measure: 380L

Lesson objectives

Vocabulary focus

Question words: *How many, What, Where, Who, Why*

Animals: *monkey, rat, spider, snake*

General: *arrow, rope, the children*

Grammar focus

Question words

Reading skills

Identifying the characters

Cross-curricular connections

Music (song)

Science (animals, parts of the body)

Resources

Reader

Activity Book

Flashcard download 1–7

Audio download (UK/US) tracks 1, 3, 4

Timing: 40–60 minutes

This is to be used as a general guide and will depend on group size, the pace of learning, and the children's language ability.

We would suggest 10 minutes for **Before reading**, 20 minutes for **During reading** and 10 minutes for **After reading**. Additional time can be used for further activities.

Lesson plan

Before reading

Show the children the cover of the Reader and ask: *What animal is this?* Establish that it's a spider.

Ask questions, for example:

What color is the spider's body? How many eyes has it got? What color are its eyes? How many legs has it got? What color are its legs?

Read out the title of the story and tell the children that the spider is called Anansi. The title shows that he helps a friend. Ask the children to guess who the friend is.

Ask the children to look at Reader pages 4–5. Ask questions, for example:

What animals can you see? How many spiders/snakes are there? What color is the monkey? How many legs has it got? Do you like spiders/rats/snakes? Why? / Why not?



During reading

Read out or play the story (Audio track 1) and ask the children to follow in their Reader. After every few pages, stop and ask questions to check their understanding. Focus on using question words, for example:

- Who** has got many small children?
- How many** children has he got?
- What** do the children like doing?
- Who** do the little spiders meet?
- Where** are the monkeys?

Read out or play the story again and check that the children understand what happens in the end. Ask questions, for example:

- What is in Snake’s body? Who helps Snake?*
- Can Monkey’s children and Rat’s children play with Anansi’s children now? Why can they play with them? Who is Anansi’s friend?*



After reading

Ask the children to look at Reader pages 26–27 again. Ask more questions using the question words. Invite some children to ask questions for the class to answer.



Ask questions to check what the children can remember and elicit the characters as answers. For example:

- Who has got many small children? Who doesn’t like Anansi’s games? Who has got an arrow in his body? Who helps Snake? Who sees Anansi help Snake?*

The children can do the following activities to focus on the characters in the story:

- Reader activities: 1, 2, 3, 9, 10, 18
- Activity Book activities: 1, 10 (Audio track 3)

To practice recognizing the names of the characters, divide the children into four groups and give each group one of the Flashcards. Play the song (Audio track 4) on Activity Book page 16.

Ask the children to listen and to stand up when they hear their character’s name. Repeat the activity a few times, and swap the Flashcards, so that the children listen for a different character each time.

Differentiation

Extra support

After reading, do Reader activities 9, 10 and 18 out loud with all the children. Then, ask them to write the answers down.

Extension

In pairs, fast-finishers can do Reader activity 7. Then, they could do the same activity with other pages from the story.