TO MARKET, TO MARKET

AUTHOR: ANNE MIRANDA

ILLUSTRATOR: JANET STEVENS

See a video of the book read aloud here: To Market, To Market

** REMEMBER: HAVE FUN AND THE KIDS WILL TOO! **

OVERVIEW

ABOUT THE BOOK

In this clever riff on the old nursery rhyme, "To market, to market, to buy a fat pig," a plump matron makes a series of increasingly calamitous purchases of animals at the supermarket. Hungry and cranky after the raucous menagerie turns her house topsy-turvy, the lady (who is dressed in a colorful kitschy ensemble) wisely decides to make vegetable soup instead.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

"I'm an American living in Madrid, Spain, where traditional Spanish mercados sell both animals and vegetables. I am the mother of two grown sons, and a writer of books and educational materials for young children. I started writing when I was in college. My first job was as a staff writer for the Boston Educational Research Company, where my mother was editorial director. What the odd couple we made writing phonics-based stories as we rode the train in from Concord! We spoke to each other using only short vowels and regular consonant sounds." [http://www.annemiranda.com/about](http://www.annemiranda.com/about)

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Janet Stevens began drawing as a child. Pictures decorated her walls, mirrors, furniture and schoolwork. Janet’s father was in the Navy, and therefore she moved a great deal and attended many schools while growing up. After graduating from high school in Hawaii in 1971, she landed a job creating Hawaiian designs for fabric. The printed fabric was then made into aloha shirts and muumus. After she graduated from the University of Colorado in 1975, Janet began compiling a portfolio of “characters”: bears in tutus, rhinos in sneakers, and walruses in Hawaiian shirts. Her first children’s book was published in 1979. Her trademark is drawing humorous animals [janetstevens.com](http://www.janetstevens.com)

THE READ ALOUD

BEFORE READING

Use these prompts before reading the story to help students activate background knowledge and make predictions:

- Did you know that the title of this book, To Market, To Market, comes from a Mother Goose rhyme: To market to market to buy a fat pig. Home again, home again, jiggety gig?
- What do you notice about the front cover’s illustration? (color on top of black and white)
- Where is the woman? I wonder why she has a duck on her head!
• There are very detailed illustrations in this book. We’re going to need to look at each page carefully as we read.

**DURING THE STORY**

*Use these prompts while reading the story to help students interpret the action and content:*

- (p. 1-2) I notice that the words on these two pages are the same as the Mother Goose rhyme.
- (p. 1) What do you think she plans on doing with a fat pig?
- (p. 4) Where did the pig go?
- (p. 10) How could the trout swim away?
- (p. 14) How does the lady feel? Why do you think that?
- (p. 17) What do you think “This is the last straw!” means?
- (p. 18) She thinks she’s a shopping disgrace. What does that mean?
- (p. 24) Where’s her other shoe?
- (p. 25-26) What are the rhyming words on these two pages?
- (p. 29) What do you think she’s making?
- (p. 30) Do you notice that the animals are helping by carrying each other? Which animal is not carrying another animal and is not being carried himself?
- (p. 32) All the animals are wearing something around their necks. What is it?
- (p. 33) This is the last page. What are they all doing?

**AFTER READING**

*Use these prompts after reading the story to help students understand what they just read:*

- What do you think happens next?
- Is this a true story (non-fiction) or pretend (fiction)? Why do you think so?
- There are eight animals in the story. Who remembers one? Another? (until you have 8).

**BRINGING THE BOOK TO LIFE!**

- Put your finger on your nose if you help with the grocery shopping. Do you buy live pigs in the grocery store?
- (p. 1) What does a pig say? *Reader: ask again about each of the animals on subsequent pages*
- (P. 17) Say “This is the last straw!” like you mean it.
- (p. 33) Show me how you would feel at the end of the story.

**COOPERATIVE LEARNING**

- After a few pages of emphasizing rhyming words as you read, have the students guess at the rhyming words on the next pages.

**SMALL-GROUP IDEAS**

1. **DISCUSSION ACTIVITY**

- Let’s take a picture walk through the story and take turns telling the story, looking closely at all of the interesting details in the illustrations.
- We have read another story (or 2) that used a similar illustration method. Can you remember which ones? *(Knuffle Bunny, Knuffle Bunny Too)*.
- How can the lady do a better job of keeping the animals in one place so that they’re there when she gets home?
- What ingredients did the woman use for her soup? Let’s figure out which ones are vegetables, and which ones are not.

**Suggested Optional Activity:**

- Provide images of the animals that the woman purchased at the store. Have students put them in the sequence that they appeared in the story.
2. WRITING ACTIVITY

• Have students create a list of animals in the story, pick a favorite animal and draw it.
• Have students write 3-4 of the adjectives that describe the animals: fat, red, plump, etc. and discuss synonyms or opposites.

3. EXTENSION ACTIVITY

• Have students design a pen for the animals and draw each of the animals she buys at the market — or provide them with images of the animals to glue into the pen.
• Provide clippings from flyers of different types of foods. Have students glue their food choices to a paper bag template.

COMMON CORE LINKS

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.K.1, K.2, K.3, K.4, K.6, K.7, K.9, K.10
To Market, To Market. Meet Thomas Staughton at Carver's Harbor. Meet Thomas Staughton at Carver's Harbor. Description. Thanks heaps for getting us out of that pickle, mainlander. I'd hate to ask, but would you be willing to help with another matter? Even before this curse struck the village, our sausage shipments from Carver's Harbor started slowing down. If we don't get them sausages, I won't be able to feed my family! Can you help an honest sausage merchant out? Carver's Harbor is just down the road from here. "To market, to Market" or To market, to Market, to buy a fat pig is a folk nursery rhyme which is based upon the traditional rural activity of going to a market or fair where agricultural produce would be bought and sold. It has a Roud Folk Song Index number of 19708. The first complete recorded version of the rhyme appeared in 1805 in Songs for the Nursery with no reference to a pig. When the rhyme reappeared later in the nineteenth century, it took the now common form: