

A House For Hermit Crab

VOOKS

Run Time: 9:07

Author: Eric Carle

Illustrator: Eric Carle

Narrator: Will Damron

Publisher: Scholastic/Weston Woods

Ages: Pre-K to 5

Guided Reading Level: I - P 540L

Genre: Fiction

Text Structure

The story is set up progressively according to the growth of the hermit crab and the calendar by month. Story is told by a narrator with dialogue.

Content

Hermit Crab is nervous because of a big change going on in his life: he has outgrown his shell and must find a new one. Bravely stepping out on a new journey, Hermit Crab soon learns that big changes can bring big new experiences and even new friends.

Themes and Ideas

Growth, change, science, nature, seasons, friendship, making decisions

Language and Literary Features

Use of quotation marks to indicate Hermit Crab's thoughts as well as conversations.

Sentence Complexity

Simple and complex sentences.

Vocabulary

flocks, debris, rearranged, outgrown, attack, decorate, dim, fierce, gently, gloomy, grateful, murky, plain, safe, tidy, snug

Core vocabulary words: different, mine, not/don't, want, what, you, are, clean, house, look, see, to, when, yes

Illustrations

Drawings

Book and Print Features

Illustrations provide context clues

Summary

Hermit Crab is nervous because of a big change going on in his life: he has outgrown his shell and must find a new one. Bravely stepping out on a new journey, Hermit Crab soon learns that big changes can bring big new experiences and even new friends.

A House for Hermit Crab is written and illustrated by Eric Carle, the celebrated creator of The Very Hungry Caterpillar and many other children's books.

Activity Ideas

- Send the Parent Connection home with the children and ask parents to help their child fill it out. Ask the children to share their conversations.
- Ask the children to draw and color a picture of the sea creatures Hermit Crab meets.
- Ask the children to draw and color a picture of Hermit Crab's House.
- Ask the children to draw and color a picture of their room.
- Hermit crabs find food by smell through their antennae. Place cotton balls with a drop of various safe extracts/oils in paper cups and ask the children to identify.
- Ask children to create Hermit the Crab. Materials needed: Red paint, (Children will be making hand prints, so choose type of paint accordingly.), white paper (one sheet for each child), red chenille stem (one for each child), googly eyes (two for each child), a white circle (cut from a paper plate; one for each child), crayons or colored pencils, and glue. Directions found in Activity Sheets.

Parent Connection

Today our class read A House For Hermit Crab on Vooks. Hermit Crab is nervous because of a big change going on in his life: he has outgrown his shell and must find a new one. Bravely stepping out on a new journey, Hermit Crab soon learns that big changes can bring big new experiences and even new friends.

Talking points

Please help your child answer the following questions. Name: _____

What is A House for Hermit Crab about?

How did Hermit Crab feel when he stepped onto the ocean floor the first time? How did he feel the second time?

Who/what helped Hermit Crab overcome his fear?

Share a time in your life when you transitioned (moved to a new house, moved to a town, moved to a different grade, had a substitute teacher) and how you felt.

Who/what helped you with this change? How?

How can you help someone who is afraid because they have to change something?

Draw and color the sea creatures Hermit Crab met.

Sea Anemone	Sea Urchin
Starfish	Seaweed
Coral	Lanternfish
Snails	A Smaller Hermit Crab

Draw a picture of Hermit Crab's house.

Draw and color a picture of your room.

Smelling Cups

Hermit crabs find food by smell through their antennae. Identify the smell from the cup.

Cup #	Smell	Description

Create your own hermit crab

Materials needed:

- Red paint (children will be making hand prints, choose the type of paint accordingly)
- White paper (one sheet for each child)
- Red chenille stem (one for each child)
- Google eyes (two for each child)
- White circle (cut from a paper plate; one for each child)
- Crayons, colored pencils, or anything else that could be used for shell decoration
- Glue

1. Paint one of the child's hands with red paint and have them make a handprint on the white sheet of paper. Once the paint is dry, cut the hand print out of the paper.



2. Cut around the inside of a paper plate and ask the child to decorate Hermit's shell.



3. Glue the shell to the handprint.
4. Bend the chenille stem for the antenna and glue (or tape).
5. Glue on googly eyes.

