

Caps for Sale Questions as you go

By Esphyr Slobodkina

Review title, author, illustrator, main character.

What do the words on the front cover mean? Tale, peddler, monkey business
tale= story

Peddler=person who walks around selling things

Monkey business=fooling around or being silly

When I hold up this sign, you can all read this with me. "Caps! Caps for sale! Fifty cents a cap." If you were a peddler trying to sell caps, how do you think you would say that?

Why is it silly that the peddler wears all his caps on his head at the same time? Could he really put his hands up to feel all the caps?

When I hold up this sign, read this part with me. "You monkeys you- you give me back my caps." And "tsz, tsz, tsz"

What do the monkeys do when the peddler shakes his finger at them?
Shakes both hands at them? Etc. (They do the same thing back)

Each time the monkeys copy the peddler, how does he feel? How do you know? (he gets angrier and angrier)

What do you think will happen when the peddler throws his cap on the ground? (the monkeys will copy him)

Does he realize the monkeys are copying him? (no)

How does the peddler feel at the end of the story?

Project Idea: Make origami caps and act out when monkeys have caps in tree and copy the peddler.

Materials: large squares of grey, brown, blue, and red paper

CAPS FOR SALE

Who is the main character in this story? What is a peddler? Have you ever known a peddler?

What is a "peddler"? (peddlers sell their wares)

What are "wares"?

What are this peddler's wares?

How many red caps does he have? Gray caps? White caps? Brown caps? Checked caps? Total?

What would happen if the man "upset" his caps? What would happen to the hats?

Why did the man walk slowly?

Now, how many caps are on the man's head?

Is that more than before, less than before, or the same as before?

What do you think happened to his caps?

What do you think he saw?

What do you think the monkeys will do?

What will the man do now?

Try to think of many words which rhyme with Cap.

ACTIVITY:

Marker or paint white hats (from Michaels).

Put on music and have the children move around the room/ gym, trying to balance the hats.

As the children move about, call out instructions such as Touch the floor; Spin around once; Sit down; Stand up; Balance on one leg; Find a partner and touch hands

When you call out Watch out for the monkeys!, have the students take off their hats. When you call out Caps for Sale!, have the students put back on their hats.

SNACK IDEAS: Something with bananas since there are monkeys in this story (ie. banana chips).