**Bats at the Library**

Author/Illustrator: Brian Lies

This book is suitable for 3-5 year olds and provides many opportunities to learn new vocabulary and point out rhyming words.

A great book for vocabulary! You could focus on words like: inky, fluttered, swooped, soared, ache, ajar, eager, rocket, duplicate, flits, exhausted, universe.

**Activity:** Pick a word you want to highlight and put a sticky note on that page. For the word you’ve chosen, explain it in a kid-friendly way and connect it to something from their own experience. Use it in a new sentence then go back and re-read the sentence in the book and continue with the story. For example, ‘inky’ – “Inky means dark blue or dark black just like a pen that has ink in it. When you get black paint or black marker or pen on your hand, you could say it was inky. When your parents turn out the lights at bedtime, your room might be inky and dark. Another inky evening’s here….that means it’s dark and inky outside.”

**Activity:** Read a few pages of the story and then stop and say, “There are a lot of rhyming words in this book. Look! Race and place. They rhyme.” Do this a few times during the book but NOT on every page. Keep the flow of the book going. At the end of the story, talk about some rhyming words together and see if the children can come up with some.

**Activity:** At the end of the story, ask some open-ended questions like:

* “Why do the bats love the library?”
* “What did the bats do in the library?”
* “What do you like to do when you go to the library?”
* “Why did the bats visit the library at night? Why did they have to leave when the sun came up?”

If the children have trouble answering any of these questions, help them out by explaining the answers or going back in the book to find the answers.

**Activity:** Follow up with a science corner or art corner on bats and night-time objects/activities (black paint, black construction paper, stars, googly eyes).

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