

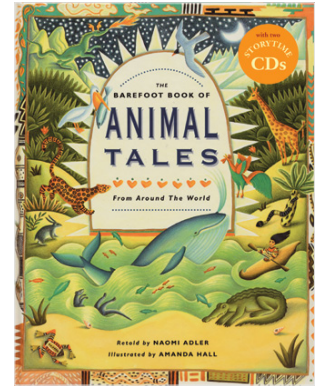


The Barefoot Book of Animal Tales

A BAREFOOT DISCUSSION GUIDE FOR AGES 5–11

1. In *Grandmother Spider*, the story starts when the world is dark. How do you feel in the dark?
2. Close your eyes tight and ask someone to tell you when a whole minute is over. What noises did you hear while you were in the dark?
3. The animals in *The Rabbit in the Moon* share all they have with others who are hungry or sad. What could you share with others?
4. Think about how you might dress up for a carnival parade (like Dragon did for the New Year celebrations). What would you like to wear? How would you like to look?
5. Play a game to try and make your partner laugh: Get into pairs. One of you has to try and stay straight-faced and not laugh. The other person has to try and make you laugh. How can you keep from laughing? How can you make your partner laugh? When you have succeeded in making your partner laugh like Tiddalick did in *The Greedy Frog*, swap roles.
6. What is your favorite sound? Make some music just like the musicians of Bremen did. Get in a group of four. Every person in the group has to think of a simple way to make a sound—one of you might clap, another might whistle or stamp their feet and another might make a clicking sound with their tongue. Join all these sounds together to make some group tunes! Can you make a pattern? Do you need a leader to tell you when to start or to stop making your sound?
7. The lake that Pelican lives in is very beautiful. Read about it at the beginning of *Never Trust a Pelican*. What would your dream land look like? What beautiful things would you like to see there—mountains? A lake? The sea?
8. Do you like swimming? Can you swim underwater? How does it feel? In *The Monkey's Heart*, Monkey is very frightened when Crocodile dives deep under the water while he is giving him a lift across the river. Hold your breath as if you were swimming underwater. How long can you hold your breath for?
9. Has a friend ever tricked you? What did they do? How did you feel?
10. What can you see at night? Imagine how dark the rainforest in the Brazilian story must be at night. Can you think of some *nocturnal* animals?
11. Make a feely bag. Collect some small things and put them into a thick bag so that no one can see them or guess what they are. Get a friend to reach her hand in and guess what each object is.
12. In *Sedna and King Gull*, King Gull gets very angry with the hunters who are killing birds for fun, and Sedna gets angry whenever hunters break the sea law. How do you feel when you're angry?
13. What laws would you make to protect the sea and its creatures?

Illustration © Amanda Hall from The Barefoot Book of Animal Tales



The Barefoot Book of Animal Tales From Around the World

Retold and narrated by Naomi Adler
Illustrated by Amanda Hall

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