

Penguin in Peril

A RIF GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

Themes: Animals, Art

Book Brief: Three hungry cats have a foolproof plan for a fishy feast—all they need is a penguin to do the fishing. Will these cat burglars get their feast, or will the penguin slip through their paws? Read to find out!

**Author and
Illustrator:**

Helen Hancocks



TIME TO READ!



Before reading, build background: What does your child know about penguins? Have they ever seen a penguin? Where do penguins live in the wild?

While reading, look at the pictures: How does the

penguin trick the cats and escape? Why can't the cats find him?

After reading, ask questions:

- ◆ Why did the cats want the penguin?
- ◆ Why did the penguin want to go back to the zoo?
- ◆ What do you think happened to the cats when they were caught?

RELATED ACTIVITIES

THE PURR-FECT SNACK

Ingredients: round crackers, cream cheese, pretzel sticks, raisins, toothpick

Cover cracker with a thin layer of cream cheese. Break 3 pretzel sticks in half; place the halves on each side of the cracker as whiskers. Use 2 raisins for eyes. Use the toothpick to draw a nose and mouth in the cream cheese. Enjoy! (If desired, substitute long, thin slices of apple or carrot for pretzel sticks.)

BREAKING NEWS

Materials: paper, pencil, crayons or markers

The back page of the book shows a newspaper that tells what happens to the cat burglars. Do you think that's fair? Why or why not? What would you have done to the cats for kidnapping the penguin? Make a newspaper page that shows what you think should have happened to the cats at the end of the story.

Don't forget to include a picture and a headline!

SPEAKING MY LANGUAGE

The cats can't speak penguin... but *you* can! Write a story or draw a comic strip about the day you went to the zoo and realized you could talk to the penguins. What do the penguins say? How do they feel about life in the zoo? Do the zookeepers believe you? How do you use your new talent?



TECHNOLOGY LINK

Go to <http://explore.org/live-cams/player/live-penguin-cam-2> to watch a live webcam of penguins in action!

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



OTHER BOOKS ABOUT PENGUINS

Pierre the Penguin, Jean Marzollo (2010)
If You Were a Penguin, Florence Minor (2008)
The Emperor's Egg, Martin Jenkins (2002)



Reading Is
Fundamental