

# A-Book-A-Week: Classroom Instruction

## Quick as A Cricket

<b>Activity Card #1</b>	<b>Literacy Development Category:</b> Language Development: Understanding similes
<b>Suggested Activity Order</b> <i>Quick as a Cricket is a book that emphasizes the literary device known as a simile. In today's activity, we'll be using the similes in the book in a drama activity.</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Re-read <u>Quick as a Cricket</u> encouraging children to join in.</li><li>2. Return to the text. Ask the children why Audrey Wood says a cricket is quick. Then have someone pantomime being a quick cricket. Then have someone else pantomime being a child moving as quickly as a cricket.</li><li>3. Repeat this process with the next page. Ask the children why Audrey Wood says a snail is slow. Then have someone pantomime being a slow snail. Then have someone else pantomime being a child moving as slowly as a snail.</li><li>4. Repeat this process with the remaining pages of the book. As there are many animals pictured, you may not want to do all of the pages at one sitting.</li><li>5. Conclude your lesson saying, "Today we have learned many new ways of describing how people are when they are doing some activity."</li></ol>	<b>Materials Needed:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Quick as a Cricket book</li></ul>

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<b>Activity Card #2</b>	<b>Literacy Development Category:</b> Artist's Craft: Learning about the Author
<b>Suggested Activity Order</b> <i>Audrey and Don Woods are featured authors in the WIL program, with three of their books appearing in our list: <u>Quick as a Cricket</u>, <u>Silly Sally</u>, and <u>The Little Mouse, the Ripe, Red Strawberry, and the Big Hungry Bear</u>.</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Show children the three books written by Audrey and Donald Woods (you can use other books by the Woods as well)</li><li>2. Read the author and illustrator name on the title of each, and explain that these two people are married and work together on children's books. Read the bio information on each.</li><li>3. Read the Questions and Answers page to the children. Ask if they have any questions they would like to ask.</li><li>4. Record their questions on chart paper, and mail them to the address below.</li></ol>	<b>Materials Needed:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Audrey Wood picture and biography (see download information below)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Don Wood biography (see download information below)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> <u>Quick as a Cricket</u> book</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> <u>The Little Mouse, the Ripe, Red Strawberry, and the Big Hungry Bear</u> book</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> <u>Silly Sally</u> book</li></ul>

## About Audrey Wood and how she became a children's author:

[http://www.audreywood.com/aw\\_site\\_pc/audrey\\_bio/ring\\_bros/ring\\_bros.htm](http://www.audreywood.com/aw_site_pc/audrey_bio/ring_bros/ring_bros.htm)

## Audrey's Photo:

[http://audreywood.com/aw\\_site\\_pc/audrey\\_photo/audrey\\_photo.htm](http://audreywood.com/aw_site_pc/audrey_photo/audrey_photo.htm)

## About Don Wood and how he became a picture book illustrator:

[http://audreywood.com/aw\\_site\\_pc/don\\_stuff/don\\_bio/don\\_bio.htm](http://audreywood.com/aw_site_pc/don_stuff/don_bio/don_bio.htm)

## Questions (and answers) about the Woods:

[http://audreywood.com/aw\\_site\\_pc/q\\_a\\_page/q\\_a\\_page.html](http://audreywood.com/aw_site_pc/q_a_page/q_a_page.html)

## The Woods Address:

PO BOX 92239  
Santa Barbara, CA  
93190-2239

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<b>Activity Card #3</b>	<b>Literacy Development Category:</b> Acts of Writing
<b>Suggested Activity Order</b> <i>Today's lesson will expand upon the work with similes lesson.</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Remind children that Audrey Woods had to think of ways to describe a child by using the characteristics of animals. Explain that we can think of other descriptive words that we can use as well.</li><li>2. Begin with "hot". Write it on your blackboard, and ask children, "What are some things that are hot?" As they give suggestions, write those words on the board.</li><li>3. Then, write the following on the board, "I 'm as hot as a ___". Tell the children that the blank space lets you decide which word goes in the blank.</li><li>4. Read the various possible "I 'm as hot as a ...." sentences. Explain that we may differ on which sentence we like best.</li><li>5. Have each child decide which object he or she likes best. Have them draw a picture of that object. Later in the day, you can write the phrase "I 'm as hot as a ..." on the child's page.</li><li>6. Repeat this process with the word "quiet", again recording the children's ideas on the blackboard or chart paper, and having them draw a picture of the object that they would like to be as quiet as.</li><li>7. Finally, repeat the process with the word "loud". When the children have finished all three illustrations, and you have recorded the appropriate simile on the page, you and the children can staple the three pages to make individual books.</li><li>8. Children will take these books home and "read" them to their families.</li></ol>	<b>Materials Needed:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Chart paper</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Marker</li></ul>

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<b>Activity Card #4</b>	<b>Literacy Development Category:</b> Lots of Links: Thinking More About Animals
<b>Suggested Activity Order</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Use rolled up masking tape to affix the many animal cards to the blackboard.</li><li>2. Ask the children which of these animals they have seen. Remove the pictures of animals the children have never seen.</li><li>3. Explain that we may have seen some of these animals in the zoo and some in our neighborhoods.</li><li>4. Tape up the cards that say, "In our neighborhood", "On a trip", and "In the zoo". Tell the children that we will think about each of the animals and decide where we have seen this animal.</li><li>5. Help the children move the animal cards under the appropriate category heading.</li></ol>	<b>Materials Needed:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>□ Animal Cards (found at the end of this file)</li></ul>







