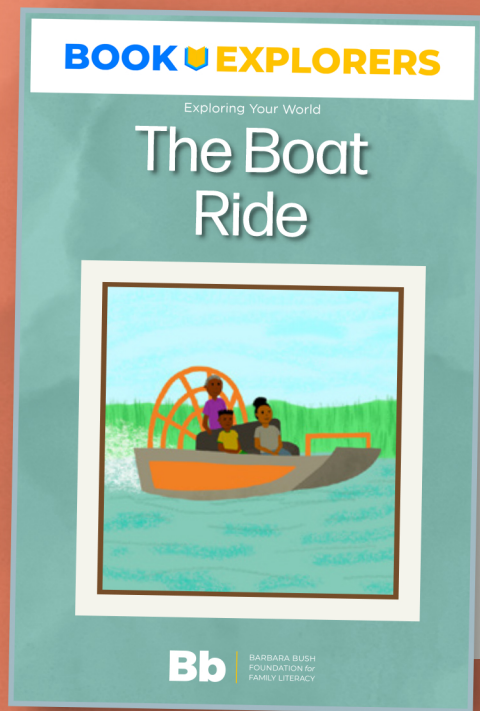





Exploring Your World

The Boat Ride



BARBARA BUSH'S FAMILY READING TIPS

-  Ask questions, talk about the story, and read with expression
-  Visit libraries, bookstores, and online reading sites together
-  Ask others to read to your child and bring books wherever you go

Parent Guide

Parent Guide

1 ASK:

- How do the parts of the word **wetland** help you figure out what it means?
 - Why do you think the children were so excited to learn how to drive the airboat?
 - Do you think that Billy's story about the alligator and crocodile is true? Why or why not?
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2 GO:

Search online for videos of **people riding airboats**. Ask your child to think about how the airboat moves through the water. Explain that airboats are unique because a fan pushes air behind the boat, which causes the boat to move forward.

Parent Guide

3 LEARN:

Explain to your child that the events in this story are fiction. While the events regarding the children visiting their grandparents are realistic fiction, the story about the alligator and the crocodile is fantasy. Realistic fiction stories have events that could really happen, while fantasy stories could not really happen. Talk about other stories you have read that are realistic fiction. What about fantasy?

4 READ:

- *Enchanted Everglades: Friend for Life* by G. A. Kowatch
- *Benny, the Crow: A Tale of the Everglades* by Ben and Sue Sutton
- *Everglades* by Jean Craighead George

Parent Guide

5 MAKE:

Work with your child to make a paper boat that can float in water. Search online for **directions for making a paper boat**. Make two boats that can be used for a later activity.

6 MOVE:

Visit a lake, river, or other body of water that is near where you live. Look for boats in the water. If there are none, talk about some different types of boats like canoes, paddle boats, motorboats, and pontoon boats.

7 PLAY:

Take out the boats that you made in the *Make* section. Fill a bathtub with water or go outside and find a puddle. Place the boats in the water and blow on them to make them move. See which boat goes the farthest.

Parent Guide

8 WORD TALK:

In this story, the author uses different words to describe the dialogue, or conversation, between the characters. These types of words are called dialogue tags. Examples include the words ***states***, ***interrupts***, ***shouts***, ***asks***, ***calls out***, and ***replies***. Ask your child to think about how these words change the tone of the dialogue between the characters. Ask questions such as:

- How would shouting sound different than whispering?
- What is the difference between asking and replying?
- If someone calls out, would they be speaking loudly or softly?

Parent Guide

9 **DISCUSS/DO:**

The children in the story are so excited about driving the airboats that nothing else seems to matter. Talk with your child about how it feels to be excited about something. In this story, the best part of their day was listening to Billy's story. Talk to your child about how sometimes unexpected surprises can be a wonderful thing.

Free Resources to Support Family and Adult Literacy:

Keep reading together!

Visit the Barbara Bush Foundation's digital collection of free books and activities for adults, children, and families.

Scan the QR Code or visit the link below.



www.barbarabush.org/family-resources-access

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