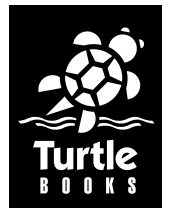


# A Turtle Book Lesson Plan



*Dear Teacher or Librarian,*

*Here are ideas to help you enrich your students' reading experience and their understanding of important curricular concepts.*

*The blackline masters on pages 3 and 4 of this guide can be used for discussion, direct teaching, and assessment of student comprehension and vocabulary development. Lesson plans for all Turtle Books titles may be found on our website: [www.turtlebooks.com](http://www.turtlebooks.com).*

*Enjoy reading!*



## Before You Read

To introduce the book, identify and discuss the title, author, and illustrator.

*What does la cucaracha mean? What do you know about stories that are folktales?*

Take a picture walk through the first few pages of the book. Discuss the pictures and the words written in large type with the children. *Is this story about something that really happened? Who are some of the characters you will meet?*

## As You Read

Help children develop an expanded academic vocabulary. Make sure children understand the meaning of unfamiliar words as they occur in the story.

*beautiful noise*

*purchased*

*shuffled*

*noon whistle blew*

*search*

*ravishing roach*

*familiar*

*darted*

*whispering*

*scurried*

*serenade*

*streetlamp*



## After You Read

Ask students to discuss the following questions:

*Why doesn't Martina like living in the city?*

*Who are some of the friends Martina meets in the city as she searches for the beautiful noise?*

*Where does Martina finally find the beautiful noise?*

Give each student a copy of pages 3 and 4 of this guide. Page 3 is a book report for children to complete. It has prompts and models to help children think about concepts of print, story genre, story elements, and story summaries. Page 4 is a word puzzle that focuses on *La Cucaracha Martina* vocabulary. You might make a transparency of each and use an overhead projector so you and the children can do the pages together.



## Using This Guide

Using the activities for *La Cucaracha Martina* will help meet the following standards:

### National Social Studies Standards

- Concepts of print: author, illustrator
- Book genre: fantasy, fiction
- Story elements: setting, characters
- Story vocabulary
- Story summary

### Cross-Curricular Activity: Language Arts Onomatopoeia

Tell children that some words sound like the noise they describe. For instance, the word "buzz" sounds like the sound a bee makes. The word "oink" sounds like the sound a pig makes.

Play a game about animal noises. Say a word and have children name the animal that makes the noise: *bark, woof, meow, purr, howl, squeak, chirp, cock a-doodle-doo, neigh, growl, caw, croak, roar.*

You might also play with other kinds of sound words: *click, slam, boom, crack, sigh, splash, zoom, tap, clap, snip.*



# SQUEAK!



### Bibliography- *La Cucaracha Martina*

*Isla*, by Arthur Dorros.  
Dutton, 1995

*The Lizard and the Sun*, by Alma Flor Ada.  
Bantam, 1997

*The Very Quiet Cricket*, by Eric Carle.  
Philomel, 1990



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



Author \_\_\_\_\_

Illustrator \_\_\_\_\_

### Kind of Story

fiction or nonfiction

realistic or fantasy

## Story Elements

**Setting:** La Cucaracha Martina searches all over

the \_\_\_\_\_ for the beautiful noise. When she finds the beautiful noise she moves to the \_\_\_\_\_ with her new husband, Cricket.

**Characters:** The main

character in the story

is \_\_\_\_\_.



## Story Summary

La Cucaracha Martina heard a \_\_\_\_\_ noise one day. She \_\_\_\_\_ looked all over the \_\_\_\_\_ in search of the noise. She met \_\_\_\_\_ who went Woof! Woof! She met \_\_\_\_\_ who went Gurgle, gurgle. After months of looking for the beautiful noise, Martina finally heard the noise outside her \_\_\_\_\_. She looked out the window and saw \_\_\_\_\_ making the beautiful \_\_\_\_\_. Cricket asked Martina to marry him and they moved to the \_\_\_\_\_. In the country they were happy and could enjoy the sounds of \_\_\_\_\_.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



# La Cucaracha Martina



Write a word from the box below, above the animal that makes the sound.

croak

meow

quack

