

Books for Young Learners Teacher Resource

Book Notes

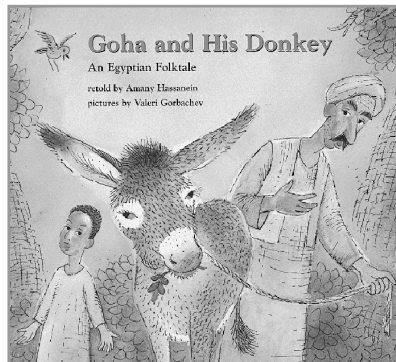


Goha and His Donkey

Author Amany Hassanein

Illustrator Valeri Gorbachev

16 pages ■ 114 words



Em	Early				Fluent			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
	S				G	I		

S = Shared G = Guided I = Independent

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SYNOPSIS

A folk tale about how you can't please everybody.

WHAT THE BOOK OFFERS

- Retelling of Egyptian folk tale
- Third person
- Past tense
- Does not begin or end in traditional folk tale manner, although it has the usual three incidents followed by a "solution"
- Open-ended, ends with ellipsis
- Pronunciation key
- Dialogue within each incident
- Concise writing, action without description or main characters' thoughts
- Offers opportunities for inferential reading
- Inherent moral

POSSIBLE SKILLS EMPHASIS

- Inferential reading; reading beyond the words will provide the main challenge—the conversation between father and son, the point of the story, the ending
- Compare and contrast
- Understanding that many folk tales have a moral

INTRODUCING THE BOOK

We know that this is a retelling of a folk tale. What do we know about the reason people told or wrote folk tales? What else do we know about folk tales?

Goha is leading his donkey on the cover illustration, but at other times, he might. . .

†The level indicated here differs from that on early editions of the book. The change has been made as a result of further trialing alongside other books in *Books for Young Learners*.

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Goha and His Donkey (continued)

FOCUS OF INSTRUCTION

- Questions and prompts should help the students think beyond the words on the page.

Pages 4 and 5: *How would describe the attitude of the three men on page 5? Do you agree with what they said to Goha? What do you think Goha thought? What was the boy's reaction? Check you thoughts with the expression on the boy's face on page 6.*

Page 9: *What must Goha be thinking now? What would you do if you were Goha?*

FOLLOWING THE READING

Folk tales often end with something like "And that is why. . ."
What is the point of this story?

In what ways was this folk tale similar to and different from other tales that you know?

- Select another known folk tale and make a two-column chart listing the features of each to find similarities and differences.

What kind of man was Goha? Give reasons for your opinion. Now let's see if others in the group agree or disagree.

If you met Goha, what would you say to him or ask him? Write it down and then write how Goha might respond.