

A Common Core State Standards–Aligned
Discussion/Project Guide for Grades PK–K

When Your Llama Needs a Haircut

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Written by Susanna Leonard Hill

Illustrated by Daniel Wiseman

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Uh-oh. It's picture day and someone's a mess! Does your llama need a haircut?

After a hilarious shampoo, it's time to decide which style would be best for your shaggy llama. A mohawk? Layers? Or how about a brand-new fur color? But be careful...or you just might end up with a haircut, too!

Guide created by Debbie Gonzales, MFA



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Meet the Author: Susanna Leonard Hill

Susanna Leonard Hill grew up in New York City with her mom and dad, one sister and two brothers, and an assortment of cats. She went to the Brearley School for K – 12, then received her B.A. in English and Psychology from Middlebury College. She then went on to get her M.A. and M.Ed. in Counseling Psychology and Special Education of Children With Learning Disabilities from Teacher's College, Columbia University.



She worked for many years teaching dyslexic students, but stopped after her third child was born. Now she spends her time being a mom, writing, teaching writing, and visiting schools whenever she gets the opportunity.

Meet the Illustrator: Daniel Wiseman

Daniel Wiseman likes to draw. A lot. He likes it so much, he's made a career out of it. Usually he draws animals wearing clothes, or kids enjoying a good dance party. However, when prodded, he's been known to draw pretty much anything else. Daniel currently lives in St. Louis, Missouri, with his beautiful wife and his equally beautiful son. When he isn't drawing, he can usually be found doing one of these great things: perfecting his biscuit recipe, hiking up a mountain in some faraway location, singing loudly in his car, riding his bike on the mean streets of STL, or napping.



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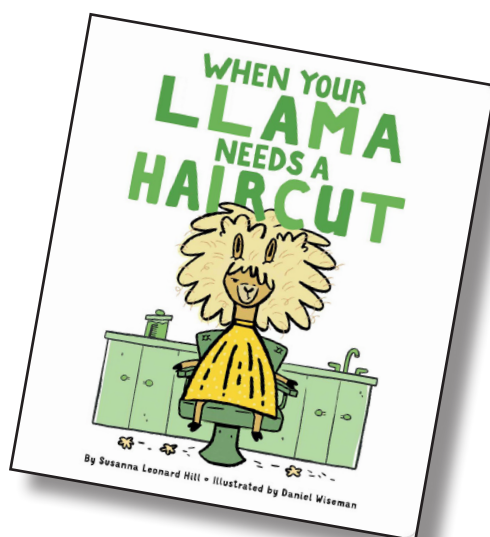
Discussion Questions

Pre-Reading Discussion:

- Discuss the experience of getting a haircut. Describe your feelings about getting a haircut.
- Observe the illustration on the cover of the book. Identify where the llama is seated. Explain why the llama is wearing a cape.
- Study the llama's expression. Predict how the llama is feeling about getting a haircut. Explain why this is so.
- Notice the llama's hair. Do you think he needs to get his hair cut? Why or why not?
- Predict what this story is going to be about.

Post-Reading Discussion:

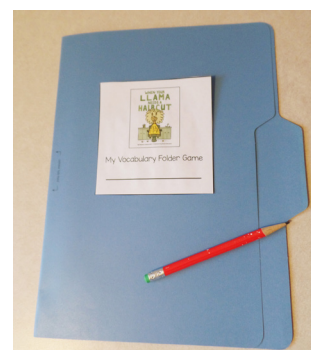
- Explain everything you know about Picture Day. What happens on this special day and why is it important enough to get a haircut?
- Llama thinks his hair looks fine. What do you think? Do you agree that he needs to get a trim? Explain your answer.
- The boy is using a garden hose to wash his llama's hair. How about you? Tell where you get your hair washed. What kind of shampoo do you use? How do you feel about getting your hair shampooed?
- Define the word *tangles*. Describe what it means to have tangles in your hair.
- Consider the different hairstyle options for the llama featured in the book. Identify your favorite. Tell why you like it so much.
- The boy is having a hard time getting his llama to sit still while getting his hair cut. Why is this so? How about you? Do you wiggle when someone is cutting your hair? Explain your answer.
- Both the boy and his llama seem quite happy at the end of the story. Determine why this is so.
- In the end, was the boy pleased with the way Picture Day turned out? How so?



Vocabulary Folder Game

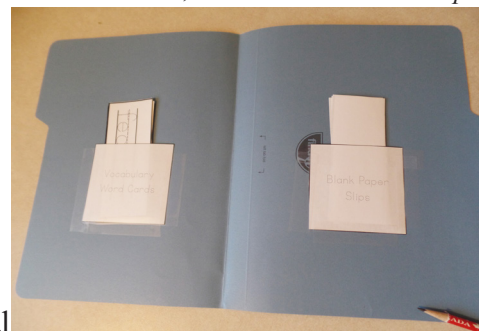
Materials:

- *When Your Llama Needs a Haircut*, the book
- Vocabulary Folder Game Cover & Inserts (Guide, pg. 5)
- Vocabulary Folder Game Word Cards (Guide, pgs. 6-8)
- Tracing Paper Slips (Guide, pg. 9)
- Letter-sized file folder
- Blank strips of tracing paper cut to the size of word labels
- Scissors
- Cardstock
- Glue stick
- Tape
- Paper clips
- Pencil
- Markers
- Stapler
- Tracing paper (optional)



Folder Game Cover

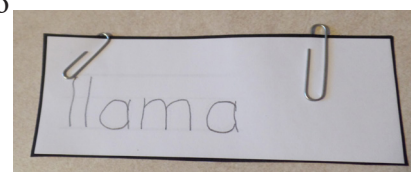
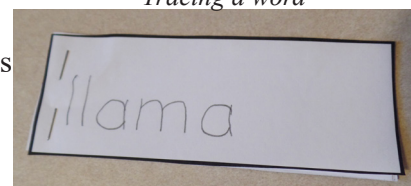
Pocket inserts, Word Cards & Blank Slips



Procedure:

- Print Vocabulary Folder Game Cover & Inserts using computer paper.
- Using cardstock, print Vocabulary Folder Game Word Cards.
- Print 3 sheets of Tracing Paper Slips. Use scissors to trim around the Tracing Paper Slips borders. (Slips made from actual tracing paper is optional and most beneficial.)
- Using scissors, trim around the borders of the Game Cover, Inserts, and word labels.
- Using glue stick, secure the game cover to the front of the file folder. Use pencil to write child's name on the line provided.
- Using tape to create a pocket, secure the inserts to the inside sections of the file folder.
- Place Vocabulary Word Cards and Blank Paper Strips inside the file folder in designated pockets.
- Instruct students to use paper clips to secure a blank strip to a Vocabulary Word Card. Using the pencil, direct them to trace the word printed on the Word Label.
- Tell students to search through *When Your Llama Needs a Haircut* to locate the selected word and the illustrated object.
- Encourage students to use markers and draw the object to the right of the word traced on the slip they've traced.
- Repeat this process with all of the Vocabulary Word Cards.
- Using the stapler, create a booklet once all of the Vocabulary Word Cards have been traced.

Tracing a word



Vocabulary Word Booklet



Vocabulary Folder Game Cover & Inserts



My Vocabulary Folder Game

Vocabulary
Word Cards

Blank Paper
Slips



Vocabulary Folder Game Word Cards

print on cardstock

llama

haircut

sneaky

brush



print on cardstock

tangles

good

bow

cut



print on cardstock

perm

snip

rainbow

cheese



Tracing Paper Slips

print on computer paper



Stack Poem

Materials:

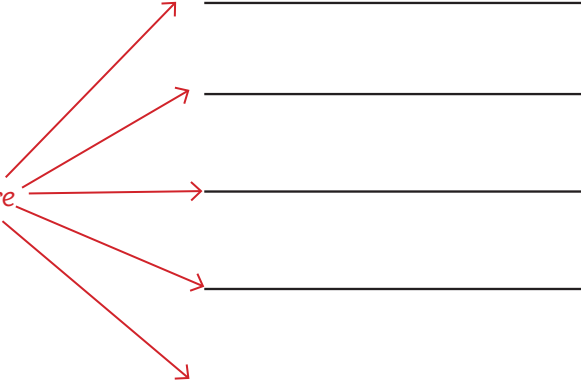
- *When Your Llama Needs a Haircut*, the book
- Stack Poem Word Choice Template (Guide, pg. 11)
- Stack Poem Template (Guide, pg. 12)
- Pencil
- Markers

Procedure:

- Reread *When Your Llama Needs a Haircut*, identifying aspects of the story that resonate with the young readers.
- Using **Stack Poem Word Choice Template** as a guide, instruct students to identify fifteen words they feel describe aspects of the story. Write those words in the spaces provided.
- Encourage students to choose five words from their list that they feel best describe the experience of getting a haircut.
- Using the **Stack Poem Template**, have students write their best words in the spaces provided.
- Using the markers, have students illustrate their Stack Poem.
- Encourage students to share their work with the class.

A Haircut is

Write best words here



Author's Name

← *Post's signature here*



Stack Poem Word Choice Template

List words that best describe the experience of getting a haircut.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____



Stack Poem Template

A Haircut is

Author's Name



susannahill.com
danieldraws.com

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Common Core State Standards

		Discussion	Folder Game	Stack Poem
English Language Arts Standards » Reading: Literature				
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.K.1	With prompting and support, ask and answer questions about key details in a text.	•		
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.K.3	With prompting and support, identify characters, settings, and major events in a story.	•		
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.K.6	With prompting and support, name the author and illustrator of a story and define the role of each in telling the story.	•		
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.K.7	With prompting and support, describe the relationship between illustrations and the story in which they appear (e.g., what moment in a story an illustration depicts).	•		
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.K.10	Actively engage in group reading activities with purpose and understanding.	•		
English Language Arts Standards » Foundational Skills				
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RF.K.1	Demonstrate understanding of the organization and basic features of print.	•	•	•
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RF.K.2	Demonstrate understanding of spoken words, syllables, and sounds (phonemes).		•	•
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RF.K.3	Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words.	•	•	•
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RF.K.4	Read emergent-reader texts with purpose and understanding.	•	•	•
English Language Arts Standards » Writing				
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.K.3	Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to narrate a single event or several loosely linked events, tell about the events in the order in which they occurred, and provide a reaction to what happened.		•	•
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.K.5	With guidance and support from adults, respond to questions and suggestions from peers and add details to strengthen writing as needed.		•	•
English Language Arts Standards » Speaking & Listening				
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.K.1	Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about <i>kindergarten topics and texts</i> with peers and adults in small and larger groups.	•	•	•
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.K.2	Confirm understanding of a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media by asking and answering questions about key details and requesting clarification if something is not understood.	•		
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.K.3	Ask and answer questions in order to seek help, get information, or clarify something that is not understood.	•	•	•
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.K.4	Describe familiar people, places, things, and events and, with prompting and support, provide additional detail.	•		
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.K.5	Add drawings or other visual displays to descriptions as desired to provide additional detail.		•	•
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.K.6	Speak audibly and express thoughts, feelings, and ideas clearly.	•	•	•

