



Prior to reading the story, show front cover to children and have them make predictions about what/who the story is about and where it take place. Ask the children what sound a crocodile makes with its jaws. Ask them to snap! with their hands. Encourage children to snap! along with Chester in the story. After reading the story, have the children find Chester on the pages where the word 'snap!' occurs.

As a library activity, explore Africa and its wildlife in non-fiction books. Discuss with children the African animals featured in the story (a list of names appears at the back of the book). Have the children look at photos of animals and discuss animal features such as sound, movement etc. Children could then each take turns at pretending to be an African animal while others try to guess. If suitable, perhaps a class visit to the zoo could be arranged for children to see African animals.

Invite a wildlife officer to the school to discuss crocodiles and other reptiles found in Australia.

Discuss with children how the artist created the pictures for the story. Children can create their own paper waterhole scene. Perhaps children could decorate an outline of a crocodile with sequins (head, legs), metallic squares (body, tail) and triangles (teeth, claws and tail edge) on a large piece of white paper. Children can add reeds, water (blue paper) etc. For the reeds, provide outlines printed on green paper. Score down the middle of the reeds. Children can cut along the outline of each reed and gently fold along the score line. (The idea for making reeds was provided by the artist/illustrator, David Miller.)

Create as a class, a big book about another animal in a similar situation as Chester, for example, a lion cub who goes around surprising other creatures by roaring at them. Once the text has been completed, small groups of children are responsible for illustrating a page and adding appropriate text to that page. When completed, the big book could be read to parents and other classes and be placed in the classroom library.

Ask the children what Chester did when the pelican snapped back at him. Discuss with children if they think Chester told his mother the truth about what happened that afternoon. If not, what did he tell her? Divide the children into pairs and have one be Chester and the other be his mother. Have Chester tell his mother what happened (or perhaps what didn't quite happen!) that afternoon. Children can then swap roles.

snap!