



TURKEY TROUBLE

AUTHOR: WENDI SILVANO

ILLUSTRATOR: LEE HARPER

See a video of the book read aloud here: [Turkey Trouble](#)

**** REMEMBER: HAVE FUN AND THE KIDS WILL TOO! ****

OVERVIEW

ABOUT THE BOOK

Turkey is in trouble. Bad trouble. The kind of trouble where it's almost Thanksgiving . . . and you're the main course. But Turkey has an idea--what if he doesn't look like a turkey? What if he looks like another animal instead? After many hilarious attempts, Turkey comes up with the perfect disguise to make this Thanksgiving the best ever! (Amazon)

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Wendi Silvano was born in Salt Lake City, Utah and has lived in Oregon, Peru, and Colorado. She has a B.A. in Early Childhood Education and taught school for 11 years. She is the mother of five and the owner of an ever-changing assortment of critters who are great inspiration for her writing. She now writes from her home in Colorado.

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Lee Harper is an award-winning picture book author and illustrator best known for his popular series of picture books *Turkey Trouble*, *Turkey Trick or Treat*, and *Turkey Claus*, written by Wendi Silvano. Mr. Harper has been both author and illustrator on other children's books as well. In addition to writing and illustrating picture books, he loves to visit schools. (Amazon)

THE READ ALOUD

BEFORE READING

Use these before reading the story to help students activate background knowledge and make predictions:

- (cover) Oh my! I wonder why Turkey has that look on his face.
- What do you think those things are that are on his feet?
- And what's all around him in the serving dish?
- What's this story about?
- I wonder what's on the back cover. Hmm. What is Turkey doing?

DURING THE STORY

Use these while reading the story to help students interpret the action and content:

- Reader, as you read the story, you'll notice a repeating phrase: "In fact, Turkey looked just like a (animal), almost". On p.7, leave off the last word and wait for them (and encourage them) to say "almost". As you go further into the story, leave off the last two,

TURKEY TROUBLE

TOPICS & THEMES:

- Thanksgiving
- Farm animals
- Problem solving
- Creative thinking

Tips for every book!

POWER PHRASES:

I WONDER...

I NOTICE...

TELL ME MORE...

DIGGING DEEPER:

"Tell me more, why do you think that?"

"How do you know that?"

"Why do you think they feel like that?"

"Interesting, did you notice anything else?"

then the last 5, then the entire phrase, having the students fill in the blanks. By the end of the story the students are helping you “read”.

- (pp.4, 9, 11, 18, 24) What is Turkey wearing to make him look like a horse, cow, pig, sheep, rooster?
- (p.18) Why do you think that Turkey chose glasses for his sheep disguise?
- (p.20) What is Turkey worried about?
- (p.25) What vegetables are growing in the garden? What do they, all together, make you think of?
- (p.26) I wonder what Turkey’s new idea is! Let’s turn the page to find out!

AFTER READING

Use these after reading the story to help students understand what they just read:

- Let’s look at the endpapers in the front and back of the book. What is happening?
- What are some other food you might eat at Thanksgiving?
- What other animals could Turkey have tried to pretend to be? Would any of them worked to fool Farmer Jake?
- Was this story fiction or non-fiction? How do you know?
- Was there one costume/disguise you liked more the others?

BRINGING THE BOOK TO LIFE!

- As you read the story, have the children make the farm animal sounds of the animal depicted.

COOPERATIVE LEARNING

- Put your hand on your head if you eat turkey for Thanksgiving; put your finger on your nose if you eat pizza for Thanksgiving; pull on your right ear if you eat something else for Thanksgiving.

SMALL-GROUP IDEAS

DISCUSSION ACTIVITY

- What problem is Turkey trying to solve?
- What does Turkey think of to solve the problem?
- What would be a good disguise?
- Where does the story take place?
- Do we need a turkey to celebrate Thanksgiving? Why/why not?

WRITING ACTIVITY

- Make a list of the animals in the story. Write down one thing you would use to disguise yourself as that animal.

EXTENSION ACTIVITY

- Have various items (brushes, blocks, dress up, paper, hats) so that students can disguise themselves as any animal they choose. Have students in the group help each other.
- Think of alternatives to turkey dinner. Cut pictures out of magazines and paste them onto construction paper
- Using a drawing of a turkey, draw a disguise, or cut out paper and glue it onto the turkey to create a costume

COMMON CORE LINKS

Common Core links: CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.1, K.2, K.3, K.6, K.7, K.10