

**PLAYBACK****Teacher's Notes**

Language: Content of “Down by the Cool of the Pool”

Materials: Tony Mitton recording; flashcards (optional)

1. Ask the children to listen to “Down by the Cool of the Pool”. You may want to show the flashcards as children listen.
2. Ask the children to “tell” the story along with the recording.
3. As the children get used to telling the story with the recording, lower the volume, having them fill in the silence by continuing to tell the story. Raise the volume and see if they continue to accompany the story.
4. As the children get used to telling the story, ask them to mouth the story, silently accompanying the recording.
5. Finally, add the animal actions to the children’s telling of the story.



To make the telling of the story easier, divide different parts of the story among the children. In this way each child or pair needs to focus on only a sentence or two.

Variation

Once the children are able to tell the story, you may want to play with the telling of the story. For example, have students whisper, then change to yelling the story, then, to say the sentences in slow motion, then speeded up, etc.