



**It's a SPECTacular Jungle Out There (🌍 A Brain Health Story)
(4th Grade – 9 - 10 yrs.)
Video: Watch and Learn**



STORY CONNECTION – SLIDE 15 (Approx Time: 15-20 mins with follow-ups as needed)

Your Cognitive Health gives you the tools you need to handle all kinds of intellectual challenges. You are being given more responsibility for doing work on your own, you also have a lot more homework. This means that you must learn how to organize your time. Because you now know how to read and write you are being asked to read more materials and then to write about what you have learned. In math and science classes, you are not only being asked to learn the material – but, to use what you have learned. So, how do you handle the challenges that harder classes bring? Just like a chimpanzee – WHAT???- only take it a step further. Chimps tend to learn from watching others – by example – because they cannot read. Chimps do, however, have very good memories and they are very good at using objects in creative ways – as tools. In this way, chimps are applying what they learn to solve problems that they encounter.

Materials needed:

- Like Humans, Chimps Learn Behavior From One Another Video Link:
 - <https://youtu.be/BjMhSfxL1sw> (3:27)
- Equipment to show online video

Preparation needed:

- Determine if student(s) will teach lessons on the same day they prepare/practice.
 - Since many student(s) might want to teach, the lessons might have to be completed at a different time.

Instructions:

1. This activity focuses on the cognitive aspect of Brain Health. Student(s) will watch a video showing how chimpanzees learn from watching others. They will then have the opportunity to teach something to their peers and to learn from their peers.
2. First, review from the story that although chimpanzees cannot read and write like humans can, they can still learn by watching others.
3. Show the video clip above.
4. Discuss the video with student(s).
5. Next, brainstorm things that the student(s) already know how to do that they could easily teach to someone else. Explain that student(s) should be able to do this activity well enough to easily teach others on the spot. For example, I know the macarena and could instruct a group of my peers to do this with little preparation.

****NOTE: These should be things that require no materials or limited to those in the room at the time of the activity. See examples below.****

Some ideas include:

- Drawing
- Song
- Dance
- Magic trick
- Card trick
- Game
- Poem
- Rap
- Words in a different language
- Part of a dramatic performance
- A math problem
- Calligraphy or a fancy way to write letters
- A hand-clapping rhyme
- A cheer or chant

6. Ask student(s) to choose their activity.
7. Ask student(s) if they have any questions or need any clarification. Clear up any misunderstandings.
8. Give student(s) an allotted amount of time to prepare their “lessons” on how they are going to teach their peers.
9. When time is over or all student(s) are prepared, ask for volunteers, who feel confident enough with their lesson, to teach it to the group.
10. After the student(s) had a chance to teach/learn, discuss the following questions:
 - Were they able to learn it?
 - How is this similar to what they saw in the video?
 - How is it different?
 - How could they get even better at this activity?
 - By practicing or reading about it?
 - Writing down what they did and learned?
11. In closing, connect what student(s) saw in the video to what they did with their teaching. Just like the chimpanzees, they were able to learn how to do something by watching. However, since humans can read and write unlike chimpanzees, we do not have to depend solely on watching and memorizing to learn something new. We can read and study and apply what we know to new situations. Reading, writing, thinking, and learning new things is good for our Cognitive Health and good Cognitive Health makes our brain SPECTacular!