

The Smiling Rabbit



**Sensory story by
David Babatunde Wilson**

Transition Music

Music is integral to so many sensory stories. Consistent transition music at the start and end of a story helps to enable children and young people to anticipate what is coming next and to participate more fully in the story-sharing process. They also help to set the mood for the story.

Please feel free to choose your own transition music. The following are only suggestions:

Introductory music:

- **Run rabbit, run rabbit, run, run, run**

Story ending:

- **Moon river**



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Resources

You will need some sensory resources available for this story.

- **Soft toy rabbits**
- **Straw**
- **Tree leaves or branches**
- **Corn dolly (if possible)**
- **Coins**
- **Soft toys**
- **Saucepans**
- **Warm water**
- **Leopard skin fabric**
- **Hot chocolate**
- **Cups/mugs**
- **Plastic bowls**
- **Lidded box**
- **Sound switch – laughter**
- **Lycra resistance bands**
- **Paper aeroplanes**
- **Sound switch “Fly me to the moon”**

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Sensory resources and activities

Soft toy rabbits

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There is a well-known story from Mexico about a very cheeky rabbit.



Sensory resources and activities

Straw

Tree leaves or branches

Corn dolly (if possible)

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A little old man and a little old lady lived in a little straw hut at the edge of the forest.



Sensory resources and activities

Few coins for each child
Soft toys for children to hug



They were very poor, but they had a pet rabbit. They loved Juan the rabbit very much.



Sensory resources and activities

**Saucepans with warm water in
(possibly pour water into pan)**



The little old man and a little old lady had no money and no food. “We will have to eat the rabbit”, said the lady and she put a big pan of water on the fire.



Sensory resources and activities

**Leopard-print fabric for
students to feel/drape around
shoulders**

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A jaguar was walking by.
“Ha! I’m going to eat you when
you are cooked”, said the jaguar.



Sensory resources and activities

Hot chocolate to smell and taste



**“Don’t be silly”, said the rabbit,
“the man and the lady always
make a pot of tasty, sweet hot
chocolate.”**



Sensory resources and activities

Plastic bowl

**Lidded box – children to bang
lid/door closed**



**“Come into my cage and I’ll fetch
you a yummy bowl of chocolate”,
said Juan.**

**But instead, he locked the cage
door and ran off.**



Sensory resources and activities

Sound switch – laughter
Sticking tongues out (if
culturally appropriate)

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**The clever rabbit tricked the jaguar
lots more times.**



Sensory resources and activities

Lycra resistance band (gross motor)



**One day the jaguar saw the rabbit
sat at the top of a tall tree.
The jaguar pulled and pulled to
bend the tree down.**



Sensory resources and activities

Students bend down and spring back up again



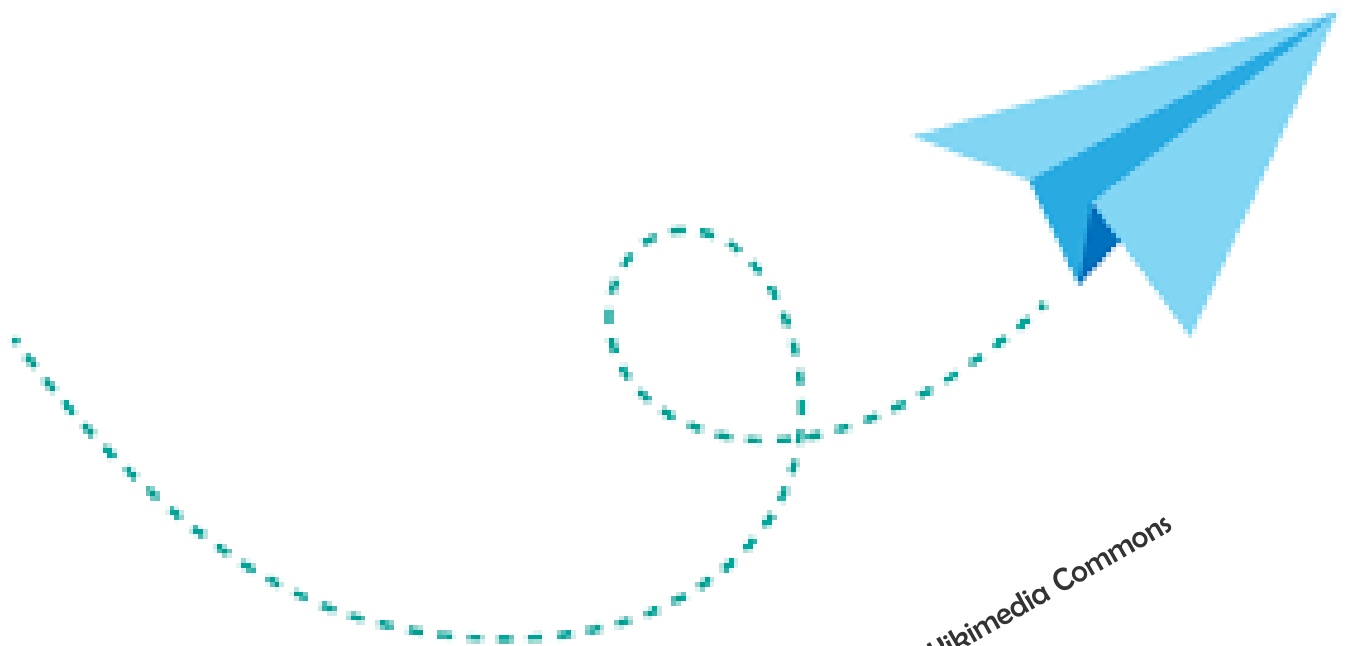
Just as the jaguar was about to
snatch the rabbit...

...the tree sprang upright again.



Sensory resources and activities

Paper aeroplanes
Students stretch up high



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The rabbit flew up, up high into the sky, laughing all the time.



Sensory resources and activities

Sound switch - “Fly me to the moon”



The rabbit landed on the moon.

**If you look carefully, you might still
see the rabbit laughing at the
jaguar.**





Though he was born in Nigeria and brought up in Botswana, David Babatunde Wilson is settled in North Yorkshire. He divides his time between his jobs as a Dad, household cook, Guide helper, writing poetry and working as a Special Needs teacher.

David has had poems published in a variety of online and paper publications including Disabled Tales, View from Atlantis, Beyond the Pane and the Ledbury Poetry Festival.