



2009

Never Smile at a Monkey

Ruth-Anne Brown

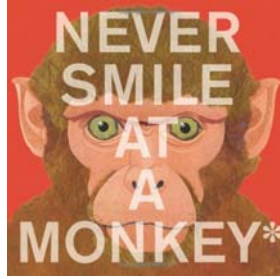
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Jenkins, Steve. *Never Smile at a Monkey*. Illustrated by Jenkins, Steve. Houghton Mifflin, 2009. ISBN 9780618966202. \$16.00. 32 p.

Reviewer: Ruth-Anne Brown

Reading Level: Preschool, Primary

Rating: Excellent

Genre: Information books; Picture books;

Subject: Dangerous animals--Juvenile literature; Books--Reviews;

"Everyone knows that tigers, crocodiles, sharks and other large predators are dangerous." *Never Smile at a Monkey* is about surprisingly lethal creatures and how to avoid their dangers. Jenkins divulges incredible information, such as never petting a platypus, the only poisonous mammal, because it might kick you with the venomous spurs on its hind legs. A cane toad has large sacs of venom on its neck that can squirt out a deadly poison. The spitting cobra can spit its venom at a target more than eight feet away. Lastly, if you smile at a rhesus monkey, it may think that showing your teeth is threatening and attack.

Newbery Honor award winner Steve Jenkins composes another enthralling picture book. The cut and torn paper collages have texture, detail, and color fit for each exotic animal. The final pages give more facts about and pictures of these animals and their deadly traits. Children will be amazed by this informative picture book of dangerous creatures.

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