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# Activity Guide

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## ¡Salta, Ranita, Salta!

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### ABOUT THE STORY

In this cumulative tale, a hungry frog tries to catch a fly while avoiding capture himself.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Robert Kalan was born in Los Angeles, California, graduated from Claremont Men's College, and completed a master's degree in education at Claremont Graduate School. He is the author of *Blue Sea*, an ALA Notable Book, and *Rain*, both illustrated by Donald Crews.

### ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Byron Barton is an author-artist with an outstanding list of picture books to his credit. Among them are *Truck Song* and *Building a House*.

### INTRODUCING THE STORY

In this book, children will watch a frog who, just as he catches a fly, meets other animals that want to catch him. How will he get away?

(NOTE: Some exercises include words in both Spanish and English, enabling you to present them according to the needs of the group and the goals of your lesson.)

### READING ACTIVITIES

#### Comprehension/Thinking Skills

- "How did the frog catch the fly?"
- "How did the frog get away from the boys at the end of the story?"
- "In what order do the animals appear?"
- "Were you glad that the frog escaped? What would happen if predators never caught their prey?" (Make predictions)

### Vocabulary

Have children match each Spanish word to its English definition. Then they can put the words in each list in alphabetical order.

mosca	turtle
ranita	fish
pez	fly
serpiente	boy
tortuga	frog
niño	snake

### CROSS-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

#### Art: Classroom Pond

Cut out a large pond from blue paper and attach it to a bulletin board. Provide a variety of art materials so that children can recreate the characters in the story. Using tape or glue, attach the animals to the pond, and display the pond in the classroom.

#### Math: Size Order

Make several paper cutouts of each creature in the story. Have children work in groups to arrange the creature in their real life size order.

#### Science: Other Amphibians

Have children find out about other amphibians, such as toads and salamanders. Ask them to work in small groups to research the amphibian of their choice and present a brief report to the rest of the class.

#### Music: Froggy Songs

Children may enjoy hearing songs about frogs. Play recordings of such tunes as "Frog Went A'Courting" and "Bein' Green" for the group and talk about the habits of frogs each song describes.

### INTERNET ACTIVITY

Before you send children to do research using any of the keywords listed below, you may wish to try them yourself to be sure the sites are suitable.

#### Frog Sounds

Children can hear the actual sounds various types of frogs make by using the keywords frog sounds to find sites on the Internet that offer recordings of frog noises. Have children listen to several such recordings and compare the different sounds frogs make.