

Lions Go Hungry

By

Anne Johnson

Daniel 6:4-27

Cast of Characters

<u>Daniel</u> :	A man of great faith and prayer
<u>King Darius</u> :	King of Persia
<u>Lions</u> :	Paperbag puppet lions (1 for each child)

*Ensure all the children have a lion puppet.
Instruct them to listen carefully to the story
and roar and growl with their puppet when
needed.*

Lion lay amongst the tall grasses. The sun shone brightly down on lion and he felt hot. He also felt hungry. He stretched and yawned and made a long rumbling growl.

LION:

Growl! Growl!

He stood up and shook his long, thick mane. Now...what's for dinner?

LION:

Growl!

In the shade of the tall trees, he could see something moving. Ummm...maybe it was a rabbit. He rather fancied rabbit for dinner. Or perhaps it was a goat..a bit tough, goat meat, but he was very hungry. He'd be happy to eat goat for tea.

He padded softly towards the trees until, ouch! a heavy net fell over him.

*Throw a large fishing net or some tulle over the
kids.*

He struggled and roared.

LION:

Roar!

He shook his head and roared.

LION:

Roar!

But he was caught fast. Lion was dragged and dragged and finally tumbled into a deep, dark pit.

Remove netting.

There were other lions there, too. They roared and growled. They snarled and roared.

LION:

Roar! Growl! Snarl!

Then they heard voices. They heard soldiers. They heard the king. The king said:

Daniel, I pray that your God will protect you.

And suddenly a man tumbled down into the midst of them in the pit. Who was he?

Daniel was a good man who loved God. He trusted God. He obeyed God. He prayed to God. And when the king said, 'No more praying to God', he still prayed to God.

So... the king threw him into the lion's pit...with the hungry lions..with the hungry, growling lions.

LION:

Growl! Snarl! Roar!

But Daniel prayed to God. He asked God to keep him safe. And God answered his prayer. God always answers our prayer, though sometimes not exactly the way we might think. God sent an angel to close the lion's mouth. Although lion's tummy rumbled and grumbled, he couldn't roar. He couldn't snarl. He couldn't eat Daniel. God had closed his mouth tight.

In the morning the king returned.

KING:

Are you alright, Daniel? Did your God answer your prayer?

DANIEL:

Of course. He always does.

The soldiers helped Daniel climb out of the pit. Lion watched. He felt frumpy. He felt hungry. He opened his mouth and growled a long, deep roar.

LION:

Roar! Roar! Roar!