



---

### **Not This Turtle**

Turtles don't roller skate; they like to hide in their shell.

Not this turtle.

I'm always out on the town roller skating in circles like a carousel.

Turtles don't roller skate; they are very slow and they crawl.

Not this turtle.

I am superfast on roller skates to the shopping mall.

Turtles don't roller skate; they eat bugs and explore.

Not this turtle.

I'm roller skating to pick up a few groceries from the store.

Well, turtles don't roller skate, and I think you're silly, so fiddle-de-dee.

This turtle, is so cool, I can skate with my eyes closed worry-free.

## **Not This Turtle Activity** **(Grade Level: Preschool)**

**Materials:** Construction paper, crayons, great listening skills and most importantly 100% imagination! To use the SMART Board for this lesson you may go to ***Mightybook.com*** to pull up the lesson online.

**Goal of Activity:** Students will sit in a circle, as the Teacher reads this poem. This is a drama and repetition poem. This will reinforce listening skills, discussion, and non verbal dramatization.

- 1. Picture Walk:** Have students sit in a circle. Using the Overhead or SMART Board, begin with a picture walk, and ask students what they see in the picture. Students will be very excited to see a turtle roller skating. These little friends have a true love for silly pictures. Make sure to remind them to listen as others are speaking and to raise their hands if they have something to add. Otherwise, have a blast on your picture walk.
- 2. Discuss Title:** Discuss the title of the poem. You might ask, for example, “what do you think “Not This Turtle” is about?”
  - That’s a loaded question, right? Just enjoy engaging them in discussion and listening to their animated answers. This is good verbal practice and reinforcing listening skills.
- 3. What is Poetry:** Briefly discuss poetry with students. You might say, “we are going to read a poem about a turtle that loves to roller skate.” That question will get their wiggles and giggles going. Below are a few examples that you might use to discuss poetry with your students.
  - **Poems:** You might ask, “Who knows what a poem is? Have you ever heard of a poem?” Poems are written in many different ways and they can be about anything you want. Sometimes people use their words to make them very exciting. **\*\*Teacher Note\*\*** This is an ideal time to read a poem you might have posted in your room as an example. If you don’t have one continue with the lesson.
  - **Rhyming Poems:** These are words that sound the same. You may say, for example, cat, hat, mat bat. Explain that you are going to give them a word and you want them to give you a word that rhymes with it. Call on a student that raised their hand, and give them something very simple such as, sat. Ask the student to give you a word that rhymes with that word. Do this a few times around the circle giving all the little buddies a chance to rhyme.

4. **Lights, Camera, Action:** Yes, it's true, you have enough drama in your classroom to start your own comedy show, but bringing in poetry drama will help sharpen various skills.
- Tell students that you are going to read the poem and when you point to them they will say, "Not this turtle." Practice with them a few times by pointing to them and helping them say the words.
5. **And Action:** Below is a script for you and your students to read through together. Make sure to point to them when it is their turn to say, "Not this turtle." You may do this a couple of times to get them use to the script. Be very animated as you read it to your students. Have fun!

### "Not This Turtle" Script

**Students** Not this turtle

**Teacher** Turtles don't roller skate. They like to hide in their shell

**Students** Not this turtle

**Teacher** I'm always out on the town roller skating in circles like a carousel

**Teacher** Turtles don't roller skate, they are very slow and they crawl

**Students** Not this turtle

**Teacher** I am superfast on roller skates to the shopping mall

**Teacher** Turtles don't roller skate, they eat bugs and explore

**Students** Not this turtle

**Teacher** I'm roller skating to pick up a few groceries from the store

**Teacher** Well, turtles don't roller skate, and I think you're silly, so fiddle-de-de

**Teacher** This turtle, is so cool I can skate with my eyes closed worry-free

6. **More Drama Please: (*Optional Lesson*)** Now its time to choose friends whose bodies are still and quiet with listening ears turned on to act out the poem. You may call on two or more students to stand in the middle of the circle.
  - As you read the “**Teacher**” part tell these students to pretend they are roller skating turtles doing the things you read. Give them an example, so friends won’t get to silly willy. For example, when you read, “Turtles don’t roller skate, they like to hide in their shell.” Students should pretend to roller skate and then hide in a shell. Make sure to show them how roller skating looks or these little friends will dash around your classroom like a track star.
  - You have a choice to choose two or more friends after you read the first two lines to dramatize the next lines or you may continue with the first two friends through the end of the poem.
  - You know your students well; make the best choice you know your students can handle. Just have fun with this dramatization.
  
7. **Drawing Activity:** Students may draw a picture of a turtle doing something very silly. After they complete the drawing help them write one sentence about their picture and also write their name on the “by” line. You might post these in the hall or in your classroom to show off their great imaginations!
  
8. **“Not This Turtle” Activity Completed: *Tell students to kiss their brains! Great Acting skills today!***

**“Not This Turtle”**

**Drawing Activity**

**Draw a picture of a turtle roller skating or doing something very silly.**

**Teacher: Ask student what their turtle is doing and write one sentence below**

---

---

---

**By** \_\_\_\_\_

