

# WASHINGTON CHILDREN'S CHOICE PICTURE BOOK AWARD

2013 ACTIVITY PACKET



# 11 Experiments That Failed

by: Jenny Offhill

Illustrated by: Nancy Carpenter

**Synopsis:** Is it possible to eat snowballs doused in ketchup—and nothing else—all winter? Can a washing machine wash dishes? By reading the step-by-step instructions, kids can discover the answers to such all-important questions along with the book's curious narrator. Here are 12 "hypotheses," as well as lists of "what you need," "what to do," and "what happened" that are sure to make young readers laugh out loud as they learn how to conduct science experiments (really!).

**Suggested Reading Date:** October, before introducing the "scientific process."

**Activity Description:** K – 1: "Illustrating Science Projects while making Predictions",  
2 – 3 "Changing the Science Project to Optimize Success."  
(See attached)

## Related Websites:

**16 Inspiring People who failed at first...**

<http://ezinearticles.com/?16-Most-Inspiring-Famous-Failures&id=862208>

**50 Famous People who failed at first...**

<http://www.onlinecollege.org/2010/02/16/50-famously-successful-people-who-failed-at-first>

**What do you know about failed inventions?**

<http://dsc.discovery.com/tv/next-world/quiz/failed-inventions.html>

**Activity Attachments:**

**Created By:** Dianne Borchert

## 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Activity Sheet

(In this activity students pick *an experiment* and rewrite it so that it will “potentially succeed) – use your common sense!

***Experiments with:*** (Subject Matter)

***Question:*** (What you are testing)

***Hypothesis:*** (What you think will happen)

***What you need:*** (Materials)

***What to do:*** (Procedure)

***What happened?*** (Conclusion)

## ***Activity for Kindergarten and First Graders***

Read up until the second to last experiment. Stop and say that you are going to read the next Experiment all the way through to the end of the "Procedure." After the "Procedure" stop and ask the students to "turn and talk" about their predictions as to "What will happen" or how will the experiment conclude. Signal their attention back to you and ask three "or so" pairs verbally express their "predictions."

Now, read the last experiment right up to and through to the end of the procedure. Now give each student a half sheet of paper and have each student draw a picture of his/her prediction as to how the experiment will conclude or "what happened." If he/she is able to write a sentence with "inventive spelling" – if necessary that would be great!

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Name:

***WHAT HAPPENED? HOW DID THE EXPERIMENT CONCLUDE?***

# **Betty Bunny Loves Chocolate Cake**

## **By Michael B. Kaplan**

### **Illustrated By Stéphane Jorisch**

**Synopsis:** From her first bite, young Betty Bunny likes chocolate cake so much that she claims she will marry it one day, and she has trouble learning to wait patiently until she can have her next taste.

**Suggested Reading Date:** Anytime

**Activity Description:** Divide class into groups of three. Teacher tells students, "Waiting for something that you really want is hard to do."

Kindergarten and First Graders: "Draw a picture of something that is hard to wait for to happen. Draw what happens next, if you decide not to wait."

Second and Third Graders: "Make a list of things that are hard to wait for to happen. Choose one. Write about what you can do to help you be patient while waiting for that thing to happen."

Introduce the saying, "Patience is a virtue." Moderate a discussion with students about why this saying is true.

#### **Related Websites:**

<http://www.amazon.com/Michael-B.-Kaplan/e/B00419KHU4>

<http://www.helium.com/items/1648904-songs-and-activities-that-teach-patience>

This site is geared for preschoolers, but can be adapted for older children.

**Created By: Elizabeth Bruno**

# **Bridget's Beret**

## **By Tom Lichtenheld**

### **Illustrated By Tom Lichtenheld**

**Synopsis:** When Bridget loses the beret that provides her with artistic inspiration like other great artists, she thinks she will never be able to draw again.

**Suggested Reading Date:** Anytime

**Activity Description:** Bridget's beret reappears at the end of the story. Write or draw the story of the beret's journey from being whisked off Bridget's head to being brought back by the dog.

Have pairs of students find additional works created by one of the artists in the "How to Start Your Art" feature using print and/or online resources.

#### **Related Websites:**

<http://www.tomlichtenheld.com/>

An activity guide for *Bridget's Beret* is included in the author's website.

<http://www.nga.gov/kids/>

This is a highly interactive website sponsored by the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.

**Created By: Elizabeth Bruno**

# Can Hens Give Milk?

## By Joan Betty Stuchner

### Illustrated By Joe Weissmann

**Synopsis:** On a small farm in Chelm, a man and his daughter set out to find a way to get milk from their hens, and the results are not only funny, but also wacky.

**Suggested Reading Date:** Anytime is a great time to read *Can Hens Give Milk?*

#### Activity Descriptions:

- (1) For Primary Grades: Label and color the correct parts for the Chicken, Cow, or Goat—simplify for your audience. (May require membership for Enchanted Learning).
- (2) For Primary Grades: Use the Farm Cutouts or Coloring Pages to enhance your story telling needs.
- (3) For Older Students: Visit the Kids' Barn at the Smithsonian National Zoo.
- (4) For Older Grades: Two Facts and a Lie: Divide your students into groups and research facts about chickens, goats, and cows. Have your students come up with two interesting facts about each animal and one false statement. Have your students share their findings and have the other groups guess which research fact isn't true. (**Note for this project:** Clearly in this story the characters did not understand how chickens did not give milk—as they were not “milk hens,” as in all good researching please talk to your students about researching truthfully, but in this project it is merely for fun and giggles).
- (5) For All Grades: Sometimes we all want something in life and we have to create a “win-win” situation. In the story, Shlomo traded six hens for the goat from the Rabbi. Draw a picture of a time where you needed to trade or barter for something in order to get what you wanted. Write a sentence or two describing the situation.

#### Related Websites: **All Websites are on the WCCPBA Wiki**

- Joan Betty Stuchner's Blog: <http://joanbettystuchner.blogspot.com/>
- Chicken Facts Courtesy of University of Arkansas!  
[http://kidsarus.org/kids\\_go4it/growit/raiseit/chickens.ht](http://kidsarus.org/kids_go4it/growit/raiseit/chickens.ht)
- Cow Facts from the AIPL: <http://www.aipl.arsusda.gov/kc/cowfacts.html>
- Goat Facts from the National Zoo:  
<http://nationalzoo.si.edu/Animals/KidsFarm/InTheBarn/Goats/factsheet.cfm>
- Chicken Label Sheet from Enchanted Learning:  
<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/subjects/birds/printouts/Chickenprintout.shtml>
- Cow Label Sheet from Enchanted Learning:  
<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/subjects/mammals/farm/Cowprintout.shtml>
- Goat Label Sheet form Enchanted Learning:  
<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/subjects/mammals/goat/Goatprintout.shtml>
- Farm Cutouts and Crafts: <http://www.farmsfoodfun.com/Fun/Arts-Crafts/>
- Farm Animal Coloring Sheets: <http://www.coloring-pages-kids.com/coloring-pages/animal-coloring-pages/farm-animals-coloring-pages/farm-animals-coloring-pages-gallery.php>
- Smithsonian National Zoo—Welcome to the Kids' Barn:  
<http://nationalzoo.si.edu/Animals/KidsFarm/default.cfm>

**Created By:** Stephanie Wilson

# **CHICKEN BIG**

## **Written and Illustrated**

### **By KEITH GRAVES**

#### **Synopsis:**

Chicken Big hatches from an enormous egg, and the chicken coop is too small for him to live in with flock of four chickens. They cannot accept Chicken Big as he is. In fact the smallest one is sure he is an elephant or a fluffy sweater. Chicken Big's good sense overcomes serious problems starting with the falling of an a little acorn.

#### **Suggested Reading Date:**

This would be a fun book to add to a farm unit.

#### **Activity Description:**

- 1) Compare/Contrast activity using Venn Diagram, with traditional Chicken Little/Henny Penny stories. A bibliography is attached. Venn diagram worksheet web site in Printables below.
- 2) This web site is an audio reading of Chicken Little.  
<http://www.speakaboos.com/story/chicken-little>
- 3) Learn the Chicken Dance  
[www.ehow.com/how/7783196\\_d0-chicken-dance-kids.html](http://www.ehow.com/how/7783196_d0-chicken-dance-kids.html)
- 4) Nine pages of actual text and pictures from this book. Put "Chicken Big" in the search window  
[www.scribd.com](http://www.scribd.com)
- 5) Original 1943 Disney cartoon of Chicken Little on You Tube

#### **Printables:**

\*Venn Diagram Printable [www.eduplace.com/graphicorganizer/pdf/venn.pdf](http://www.eduplace.com/graphicorganizer/pdf/venn.pdf)

#### **Related Websites:**

\*Author's web site (very entertaining)

<http://www.keithgravesart.com/main.htm>

\*NPR Big Chicken read aloud with Daniel Pinkwater

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=131292515>

\*Great Children's Lit Wiki with good ideas and discussion questions

<http://unosummer2011childrenslit.wikispaces.com/chicken+BIG+%28Alice%29>

\*Wonderful, colorful pictures and story of Chicken Little global warming comparisons if wanted.

[www.edsanders.com/chickenlittle](http://www.edsanders.com/chickenlittle)



## CHICKEN LITTLE BIBLIOGRAPHY

- \*Chicken Little by Rebecca Emberley
- \*Chicken Little by Steven Kellogg
- \*Pollita Pequenita by Steven Kellogg
- \*Chicken Little by Sally Hobson
- \*Henny Penny by Paul Galdone
- \*Henny Penny by Werner Zimmermann
- \*Henny Penny by Jane Wattenberg

**Created By: Dawn Smith**

# Chopsticks

## By Amy Krouse Rosenthal

### Illustrated By Scott Magoon

**Synopsis:** Meet Chopsticks! They've been best friends forever. But one day, this inseparable pair comes to a fork in the road. And for the very first time, they have to figure out how to function apart.

**Suggested Reading Date:** This book could be read during Chinese New Year which is in February, but this book would also work throughout the year.

#### Activity Descriptions:

- (1) On Amy Krouse Rosenthal's webpage she has a PDF file full coloring sheets, matching games, mazes, and more!
- (2) Amy Krouse Rosenthal also wrote *Spoon*. Read *Spoon* and *Chopsticks* and compare and contrast the two stories.
- (3) Show the You Tube Video or visit the Chopstick Wiki demonstrating the use of Chopsticks. Have your students practice picking up random items (i.e. erasers, math manipulative that you can borrow from your teacher friends, cotton balls, dried macaroni, marbles, M&M's, etc.) using chopsticks. Have your students try individually or try working together with one Chopstick each as a team of one.
- (4) If you are truly daring—set up a Chopsticks relay in your library. Each team should have two cups placed at one end of your library on a table. One cup should be full of a particular item that you wish to move from one cup to another. Have student synergize as teams run down individually to move items from one cup to the other cup using Chopsticks. Walking or running in the library to get to this table is up to you! Play until items are moved from one cup to another or "Minute to Win it Style" where you need to have so many items moved in a minute. For an advanced challenge you can have students in pairs, each carrying one chopstick, or you can have one person blindfolded while the other person guides the other down to the cup to move one item from one cup to another cup. Remember safety first, it's all fun until you get poked in the eye with a chopstick!

#### Related Websites: All Websites are on the WCCPBA Wiki

- Amy Krouse Rosenthal's Webpage: <http://www.whoisamy.com/>
- Chopsticks Activity Guide in PDF form from Amy Krouse Rosenthal's Webpage: [http://www.whoisamy.com/images/Chopsticks\\_Activities\\_Guide.pdf](http://www.whoisamy.com/images/Chopsticks_Activities_Guide.pdf)
- Spoon You Tube Video for Comparing and Contrasting to Chopsticks: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uoLg4GGgCSY>
- You Tube Video for demonstrating the use of Chopsticks: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=52hNiYauNQo>
- Chopsticks Video for the Piano: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MmKbdfTAA4>
- How to Eat With Chopsticks Wiki: <http://www.wikihow.com/Eat-with-Chopsticks>

**Created By:** Stephanie Wilson

# **Doodleday**

## **By Ross Collins**

### **Illustrated By Ross Collins**

**Synopsis:** As Harvey's mom leaves for the store she warns him not to draw anything because it is Doodleday. Harvey thinks his mom is talking nonsense. How could a little drawing hurt anything? Harvey soon discovers that his mom was absolutely correct as Harvey's drawings overwhelm each page.

**Suggested Reading Date:** May 12 was the 2012 Doodleday.

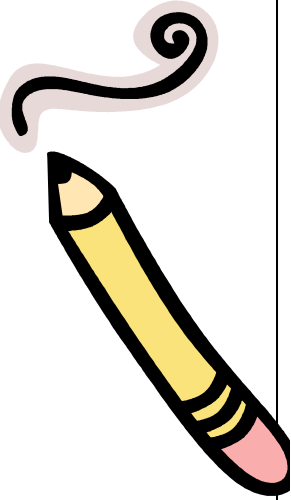
**Activity Description:** Students will make their own bookmarks using ideas from the story.

#### **Related Websites:**

<http://rosscollins.net/picturebooks/doodleday.php> <http://doodledayusa.org/index.php>  
<http://rosscollins.net/>

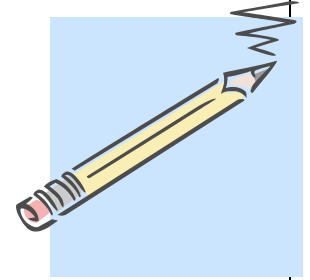
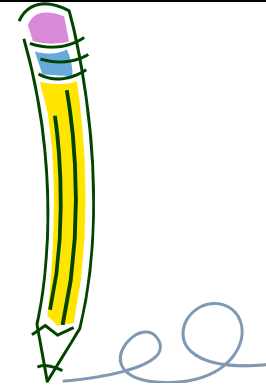
**Activity Attachments:** Bookmark templates are included for students to complete. Blank bookmark templates are available to create their own Doodleday bookmark as well as some clip art.

**Created By: Carol Steen**



## *Doodleday*

by Ross Collins



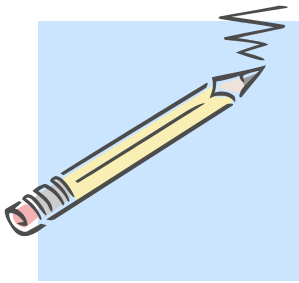
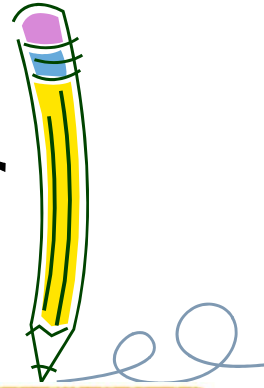
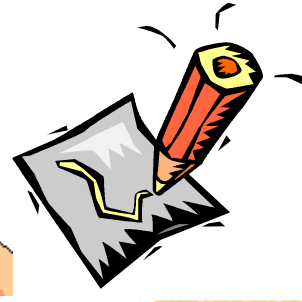
Harvey's mother must be teasing him about Doodleday. How could it possibly be wrong to draw?

Harvey is worried when the fly he draws begins to destroy his kitchen. The spider Harvey draws to get rid of the fly heads for Harvey's Dad.

# *Doodleday*

by Ross Collins





Make your own bookmarks!

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# **EVEN MONSTERS NEED HAIRCUTS**

**By Matthew McElligott**

**Illustrated By Matthew McElligott**

**Synopsis:** Business is steady all night, and this son of a barber is prepared for anything with his scissors, rotting tonic, horn polish, and stink wax. It's a tough job, but someone's got to help these creatures maintain their ghoulish good looks. This funny story is about a boy who follows in his father's footsteps...in his own monstrously unique way when he sneaks into his father's barber shop whenever there's a full moon.

**Suggested Reading Date:** October/Halloween without being "Halloween" just monsters and midnight. Could also be done any week there's a full moon.

## **Activity Description: Monster Machine/Frankenstein Head Craft**

The author's website has an interactive activity called Monster Machine that prints out 1000's of different monsters to assemble and color. It's so perfect for the book and could be done by teacher and have the copies made in advance, (several different styles as you don't see the final outcome until it prints.) Print and hold one up like you've just made it for them to color (also have multiple copies ready ahead). Would work with a Smartboard or just on a laptop with LCD projector.

The website also has a "monster barber shop quartet" singing a 15 sec. intro to the book to play anytime (pre- or post-reading.)

Older students could assemble the monster, color, then name them i.e. "Ralph" and do an acrostic poem using their name to describe them. Assemble the whole thing on a 9 x 12 piece of construction paper for display.

The second website has a cute Frankenstein head craft out of construction paper. Students could make Frankenstein and then write about the steps to cutting his hair.

## **Related Websites:**

<http://matthewmcelligott.com/monsters/index.php> Author's website with "Monster Machine" and song

<http://lifeinfirstgrade1.blogspot.com/2011/10/meet-frank-frankenstein.html> Has pictures of Frank the Frankenstein face art project.

**Activity Attachments:** Frankenstein head craft

**Created By: Kim Guyette**



## Frankenstein Head Art- Even Monsters Need Haircuts



picture and idea by Leslie Ann-lifeinfirstgrade blog 2012

Head appears to be 8x12 construction paper, neck can be made from the waste when you cut the 12x18 into 2- 8x12's and then a strip of black 12x4 to let them cut the hair. Pupils for the eyes can be cut from the scraps from the hair and the whites of the eye should be 2x2 maybe a little larger as my kids seem to burn a lot of the paper when they cut a circle from a square shape. The rest is black marker or crayon. You really must check out the blog: <http://lifeinfirstgrade1.blogspot.com/2011/10/meet-frank-frankenstein.html> Lots of great projects. FYI Got the idea/link off of Pinterest. I've gotten lots of library ideas from there.

- 1) Students can give their "Frank" a new name i.e. "Ralph" and then do an acrostic poem.

**R**really green

**A**nd makes you want to scream.

**L**ives next door to my Aunt Doreen.

**P**lays third base on my baseball team

**H**is Haircut is a dream!

Or something like that. Attach both to a 12x18 construction paper or the poem to the back of the head to hang or dangle from the ceiling.

- 2) Older kids could write a How-To expository piece on how to give a monster/anybody a haircut. Which now in the core standards is W2-Write informative/explanatory text for 3, 4, and 5<sup>th</sup>.

# **Gingerbread Man Loose in School**

**Author: Laura Murray**

**Illustrator: Mike Lowery**

**Synopsis:** The Gingerbread Man pops out of a classroom oven, but just as he is about to join the students, the children leave—and leave him behind. The gingerbread man searches all of the school for the group of children who made him.

**Suggested Reading Date: December**

**Activity Description:** Decorate the black line of gingerbread man. Draw/map out your school and retrace the steps gingerbread man.

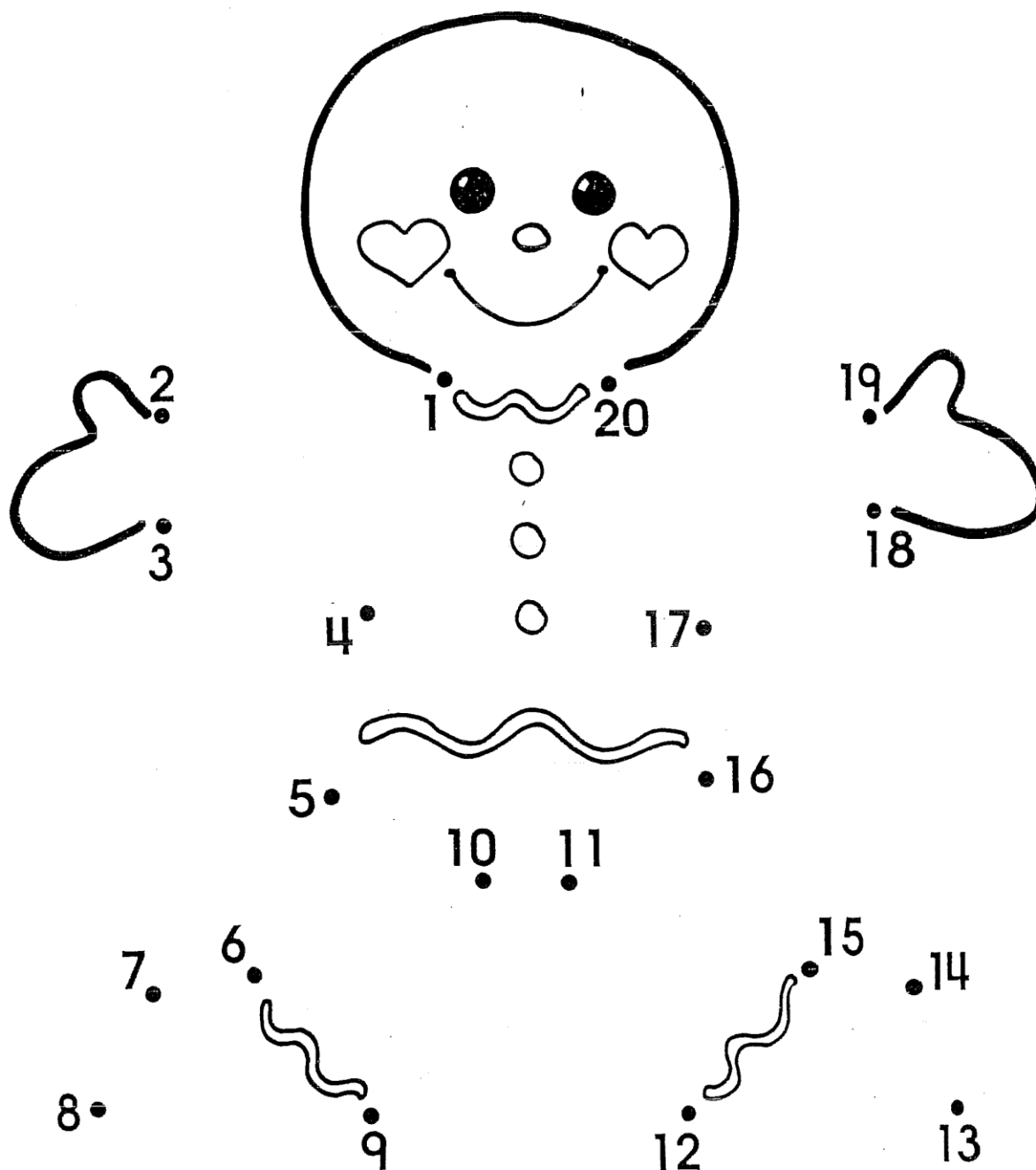
**Related Websites:**

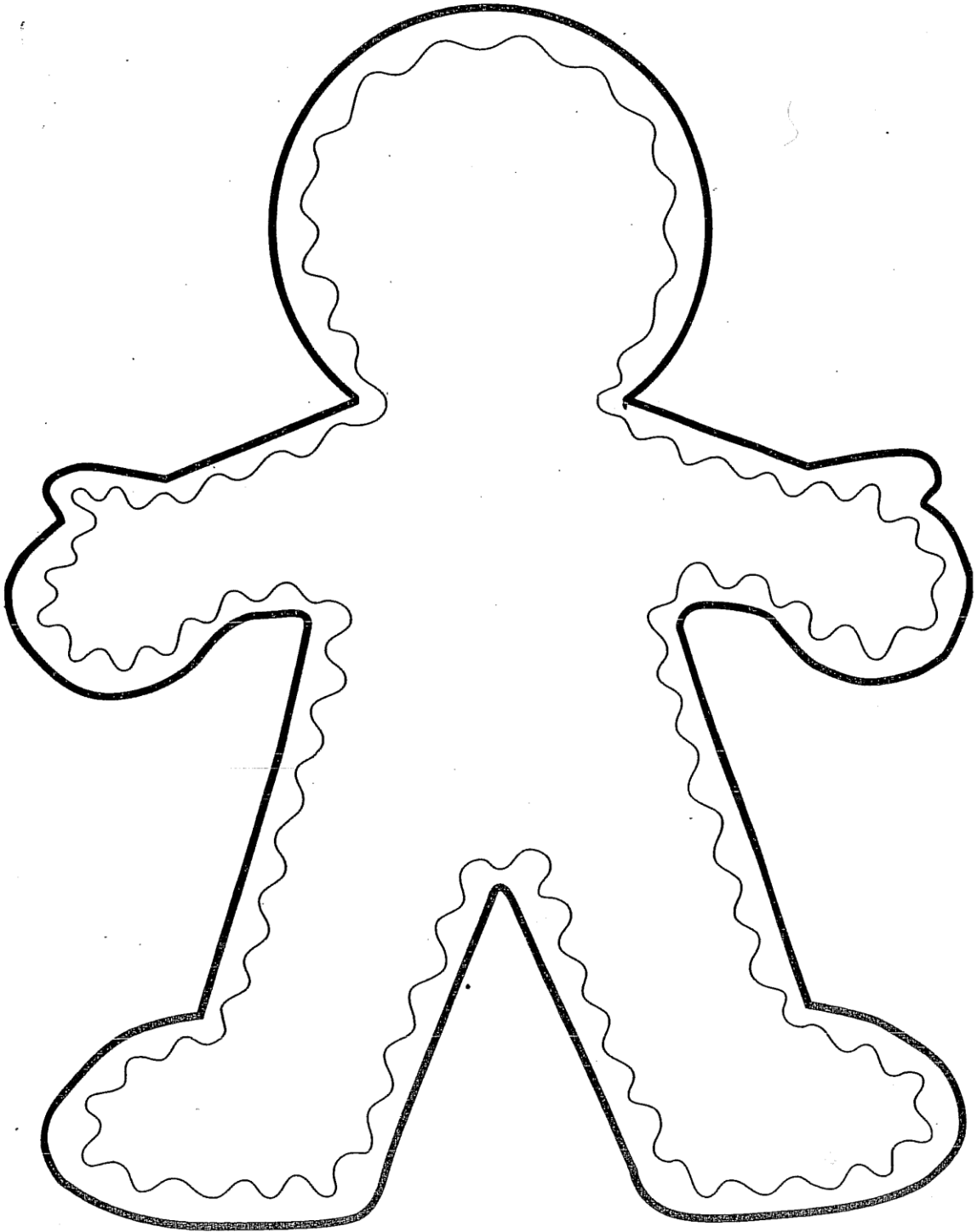
**Activity Attachments: Three different gingerbread men**

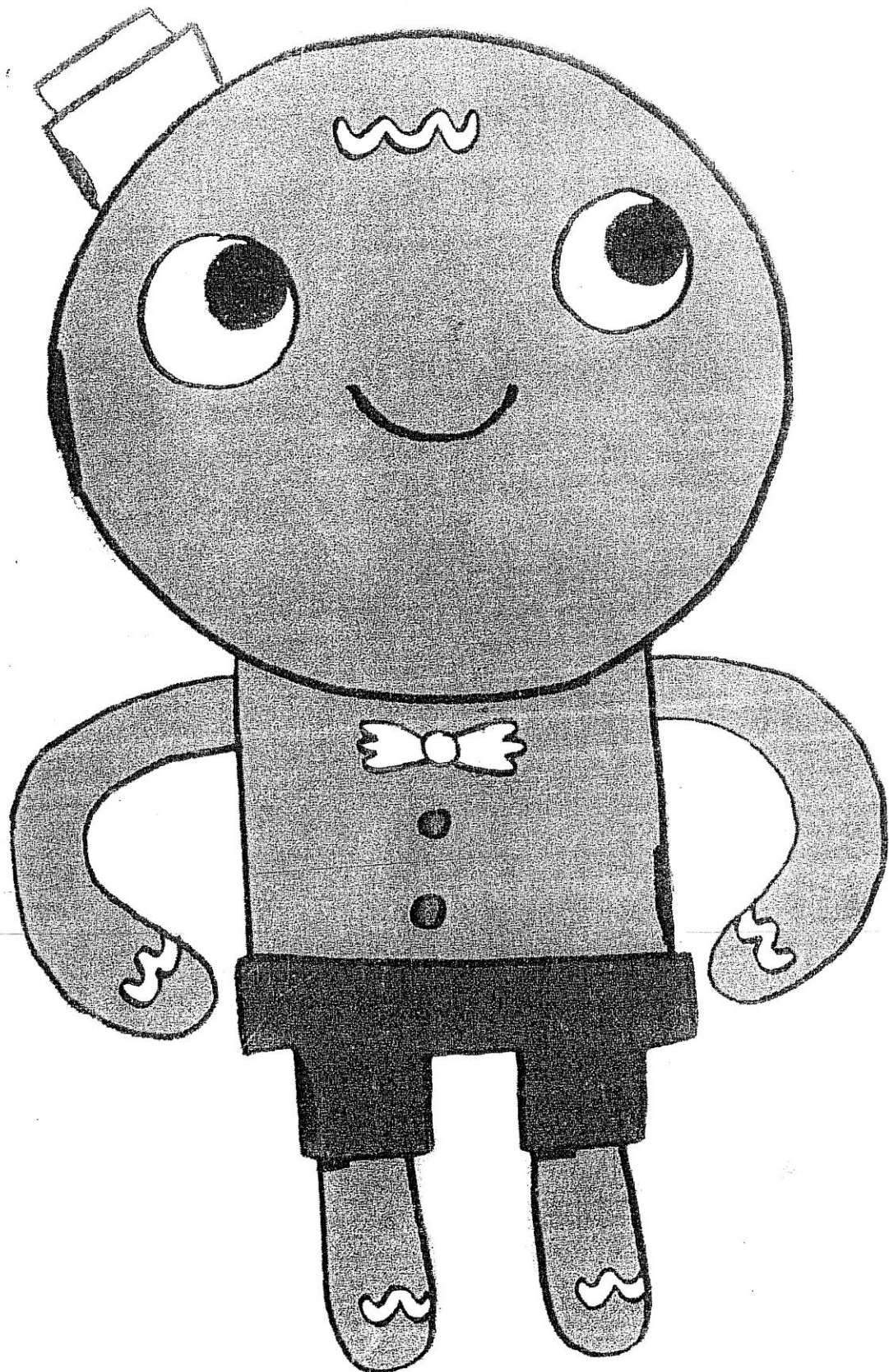
**Created By:** Charisse Tsukamoto

# You Can't Catch Me!

Connect the dots from 1 to 20. Color.







# How to Teach a Slug to Read

## By Susan Pearson

### Illustrated By David Slonim

#### Synopsis:

Step by step instructions on how to teach a baby slug to read. Mama Slug is guided by a young boy in the proper and effects ways to a young slug's heart!

#### Suggested Reading Date:

beginning of school, maybe 3<sup>rd</sup> week

#### Activity Description:

- **Create a slug**

##### Materials

Pipe cleaner – 3" pieces

Thick yarn – 8" pieces

Pony beads – 7 - 9

Medium pom pom - 1

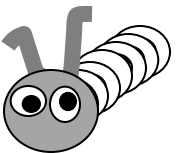
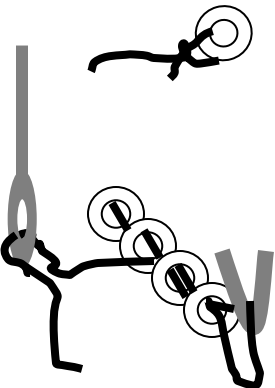
Little google eyes - 2

Glue

Big Big needle

##### Procedure

1. Fold pipe cleaner in half.
2. Thread needle with yarn.
3. Tie a bead in the end of one of the strings of yarn.
4. Thread an even number of bead on the needle.
5. Slip the folded pipe cleaner (antennae) over the yarn.
6. Reverse the threading back through the beads.
7. Tie onto the knotted bead.
8. Trim the ends of the yarn. Fill bead with glue to hold knot.
9. Glue pom pom (head) on the antennae end.
10. Glue eye on the head.
11. Let dry.



#### Extended Activities:

- **Create a diary of how you taught your slug to read**
- **Decide how to teach another creature to read**

**Related Websites:**

<http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/book/how-teach-slug-read>

<http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/10000009-how-to-teach-a-slug-to-read>

**Activity Attachments:****Other slug creations –**

<http://michellan-michele.blogspot.ca/2011/06/fathers-day-crafts.html>

<http://www.allkidsnetwork.com/crafts/bugs/paper-inch-worm.asp>

[http://www.freekidscrafts.com/wiggly\\_worms-e1807.html](http://www.freekidscrafts.com/wiggly_worms-e1807.html)

<http://jakewalkenhorstfamily.blogspot.com/2010/04/kids-craft-class-gummi-worm-day.html>

<http://differjeansfavoritethings.blogspot.com/2011/11/apple-worm-craft.html> ok it's not sluggish, but so Cute!

**Created By:**

Amy Cook

Southgate – Kennewick, WA

# **Pete the Cat**

**I Love my White Shoes**  
**Author: Eric Litwin**  
**Illustrator: James Dean**

**Synopsis:** Pete, a navy-blue cat is happy with his new white shoe. Pete's shoes changes colors three different times, but no matter what color his shoes are, Pete keeps movin' and groovin' and singing his song. . . . because it's all good.

**Suggested Reading Date: September Ice Breaker**

**Activity Description:**

1. Graph which shoe kids like best. Number Graph and or Picture Graph
2. Help Pete put his shoes on and don't forget to color them in. Complete the rebus song for Pete by writing in your favorite color and color in more shoes.

**Related Websites:** [www.harpercollinschildrens.com/petethecat](http://www.harpercollinschildrens.com/petethecat)

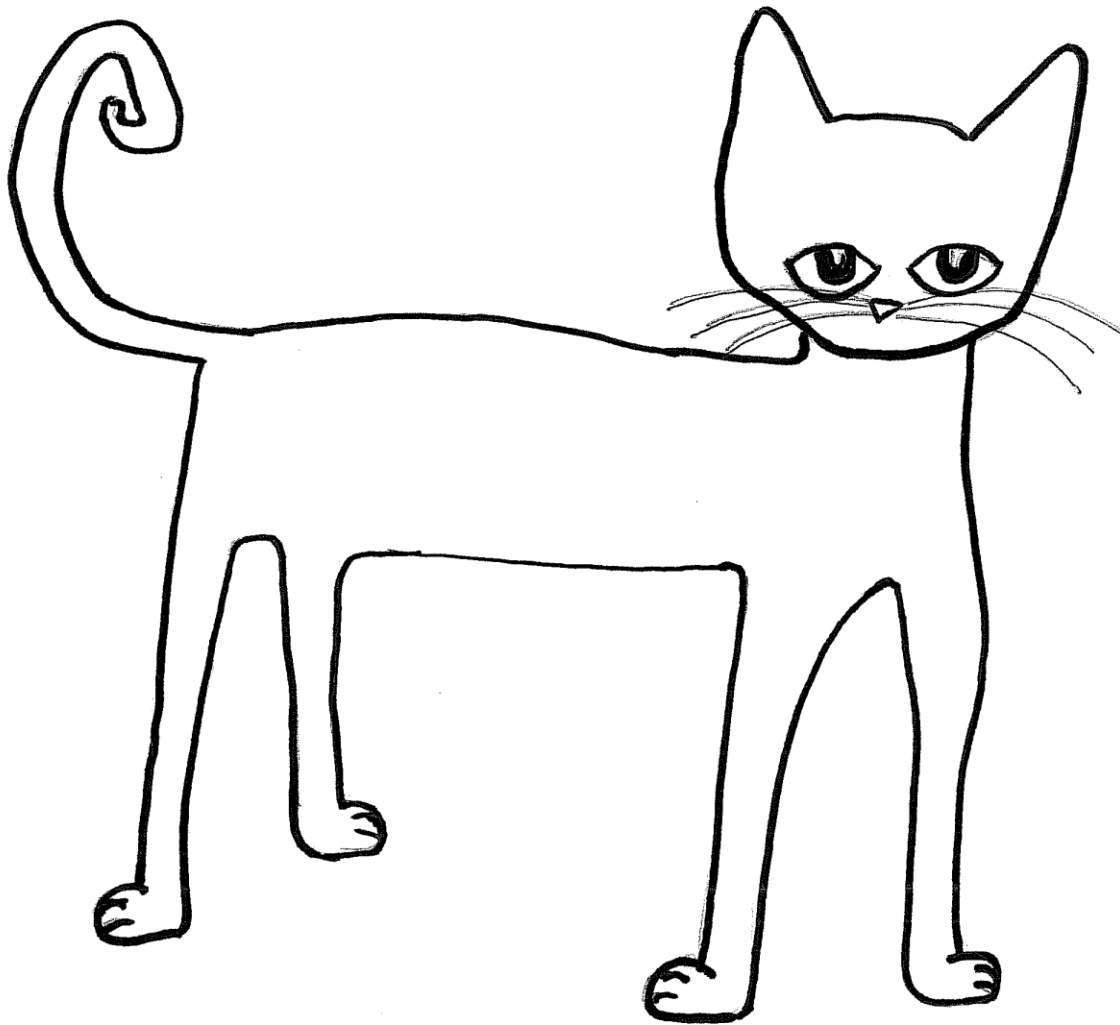
**Activity Attachments:** **Graphs, Pete the Cat, shoes for both activities**

**Created By:** Charisse Tsukamoto

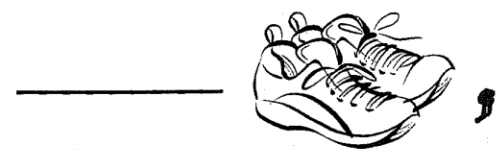


Which of Pete the Cat's shoes do you like best?

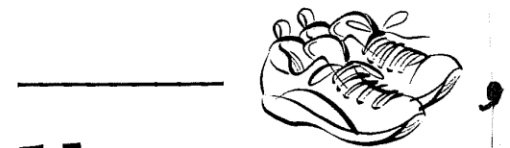
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**"I love my**



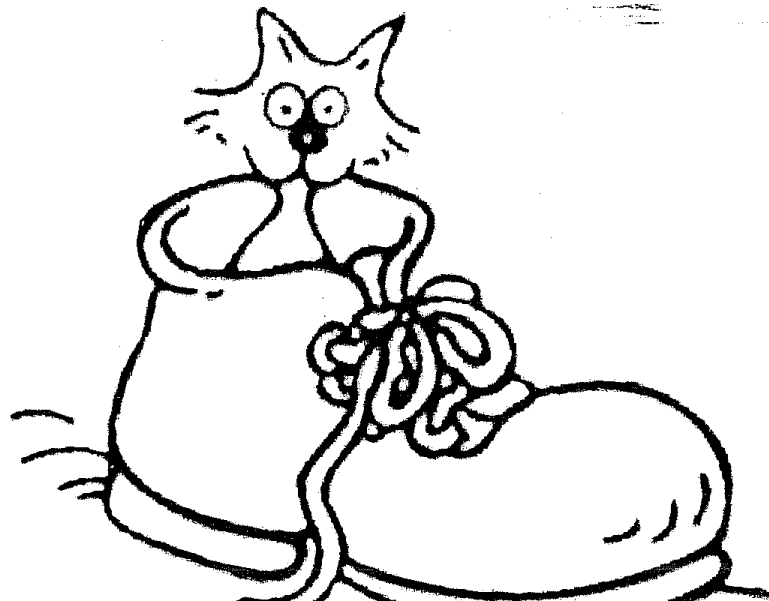
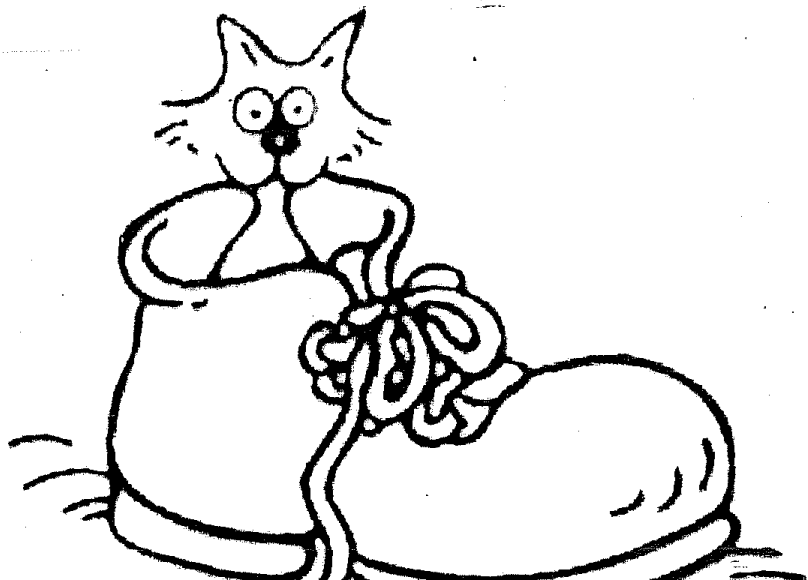
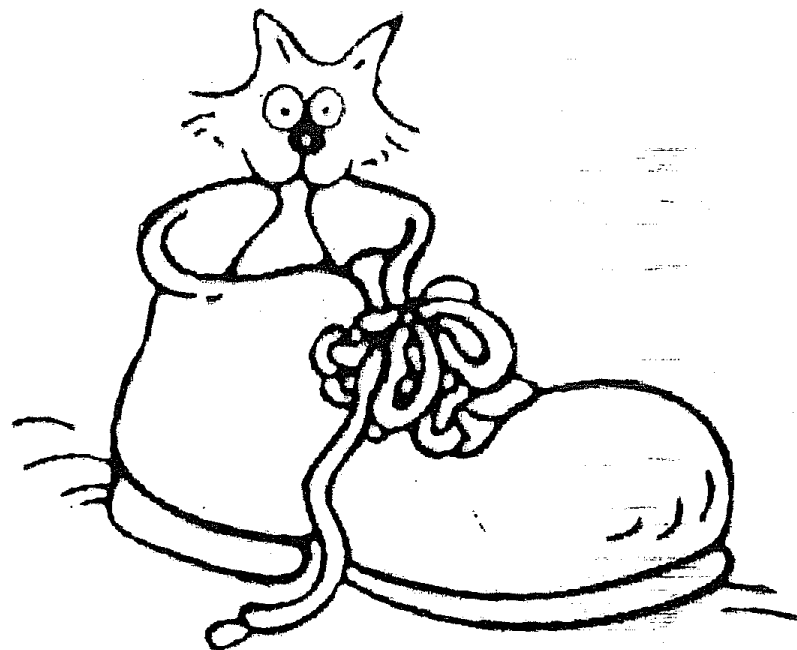
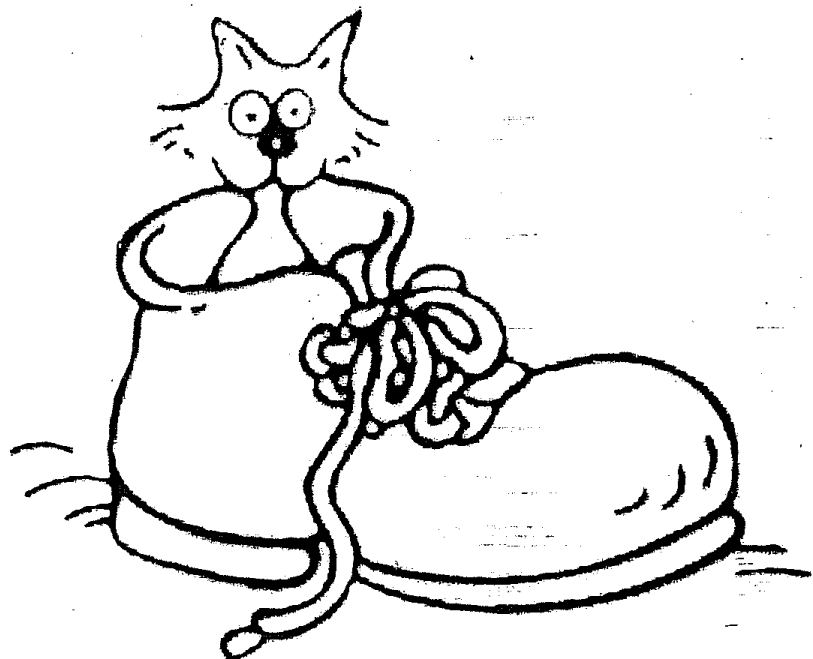
**I love my**



**I love my**



Shoes fore Picture graph.



# **The Princess and the Pig**

## **By Jonathan Emmett**

### **Illustrated By Poly Bernatene**

#### **Synopsis:**

What would happen if a princess and a pig traded places? Would it be a fairy tale come true or a horror story? That is what happened to Pigmella and Priscilla. Or is it Priscilla and Pigmella? I keep getting them mixed up!

#### **Suggested Reading Date:**

anytime

#### **Activity Description:**

- Share several fairy tales including Sleeping Beauty, Prince and the Pauper, Puss in Boots, Thumbelina, and Frog Prince.
- Have the kids decide what they would like to have happen if they could be in one of the fairy tales. What part they would like to happen in their life today.
- Have them write a short story about their adventure.
- Share.

#### **PIG NOSES**

- From Egg Carton Cups - Cut out the cups from a cardboard egg carton and let your children paint them pink. When dry, have your children color black nostrils on the flat side of their egg cup. Tie string onto the sides of each cup and help your children tie on the cups over their noses for "pig" noses.
- From Toilet Tissue Rolls - Take clean toilet tissue tubes and cut them into two inch sections. Tie string onto the sides of each section and help your children tie one of the tubes over their noses for "pig" noses.

#### **Related Websites:**

<http://www.brighthub.com/education/k-12/articles/119720.aspx>

<http://www.dltk-kids.com/animals/pigs.htm> - don't forget to add the crown!

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/themes/pig.shtml>

#### **Created By:**

Amy Cook

Southgate – Kennewick, WA

# **Prudence Wants a Pet**

## **By Cathleen Daly**

### **Illustrated By Stephen Michael King**

**Synopsis:** Prudence wants a pet. Desperately.

“No,” says Dad, “pets cost too much to keep.”

“No,” says Mom, “pets make noise.”

But Prudence is determined. She finds her own pet. It is a...branch. But Branch isn't exactly the pet of her dreams, and neither are Twig, Mr. Round (a car tire), or her baby brother Milo.

Poor Prudence. Will she ever find the perfect pet?

**Suggested Reading Date:** Any time of year

**Activity Description:** Write about your pet and draw a picture of you and your pet doing an activity.

**Related Websites:** <http://cathleenadaly.blogspot.com/> Author website (still under construction) Prudence is her first picture book.

**Activity Attachments:** (Word document – Writing Template)

**Created By:** Kay Evey, Tukwila Elementary

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Pet: \_\_\_\_\_

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Your pet's name:

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How will you take care of your pet?

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Draw a picture of you and your pet doing something you enjoy doing together.

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# **RAIN SCHOOL**

## **By James Rumford**

**Synopsis:** It is the first day of school in Chad, Africa. Children are filling the road. "Will they give us a notebook?" Thomas asks. "Will they give us a pencil? Will I learn to read?" But when he and the other children arrive at the schoolyard, they find no classroom, no desks. Just a teacher. "We will build our school," she says. "This is our first lesson."

**Suggested Reading Date:** Beginning of the year

**Activity Description:** Following lessons adapted from authors website.  
(see below)

- 1) Design your school. When the children in Chad built their school, they got to choose how it looked. If you were to build your perfect school – what would it look like? What would it include? How could you change the school to help you learn better? Have kids draw their dream schools for all to see.
- 2) Make your school from Natural Materials. The children in Chad made their school from the natural materials available to them – dirt, sticks, grass, etc. Look around the outside of your school. If you had to make your school from just what you could find, what would you use? Classes could make lists of materials or bring in small samples of products to share.

### **Related Websites:**

[http://jamesrumford.com/jamesrumford.com/Rain\\_School.html](http://jamesrumford.com/jamesrumford.com/Rain_School.html) - Author site

<http://www.everyculture.com/Bo-Co/Chad.html> - background on country of Chad

**Created By:** Shay Eisenbarth, Oak Harbor School District

# **The Runaway Wok**

**Compestine, Ying Chang**  
**Illustrator: Serra Sebastia**

**Synopsis:** Part "Jack and the Beanstalk" and part "Robin Hood," a tale of a poor family man in Beijing sends his son to trade their eggs for a bag of rice, but instead he gets an empty magic wok that changes their fortunes. This tale is actually a retelling of a Danish tale, "The Talking Pot." Ming is sent to trade his family's last eggs for rice to make stir-fried rice to share with neighbors on Chinese New Year. When he encounters an old man selling a rusty old wok with the magical power of singing, he trades their food for this apparently worthless object. Ming's parents are distressed until the wok sings to them. After they polish it to a shine, the pot runs off to the family's wealthy employers, the Zhangs. One after another, the wok tricks members of the greedy family, returning to Ming's household filled with delicious food, toys, and money to share with their neighbors.

**Suggested Reading Date: During the week of Chinese New Year (February 10<sup>th</sup>)**

**Activity Description: Comprehension:**

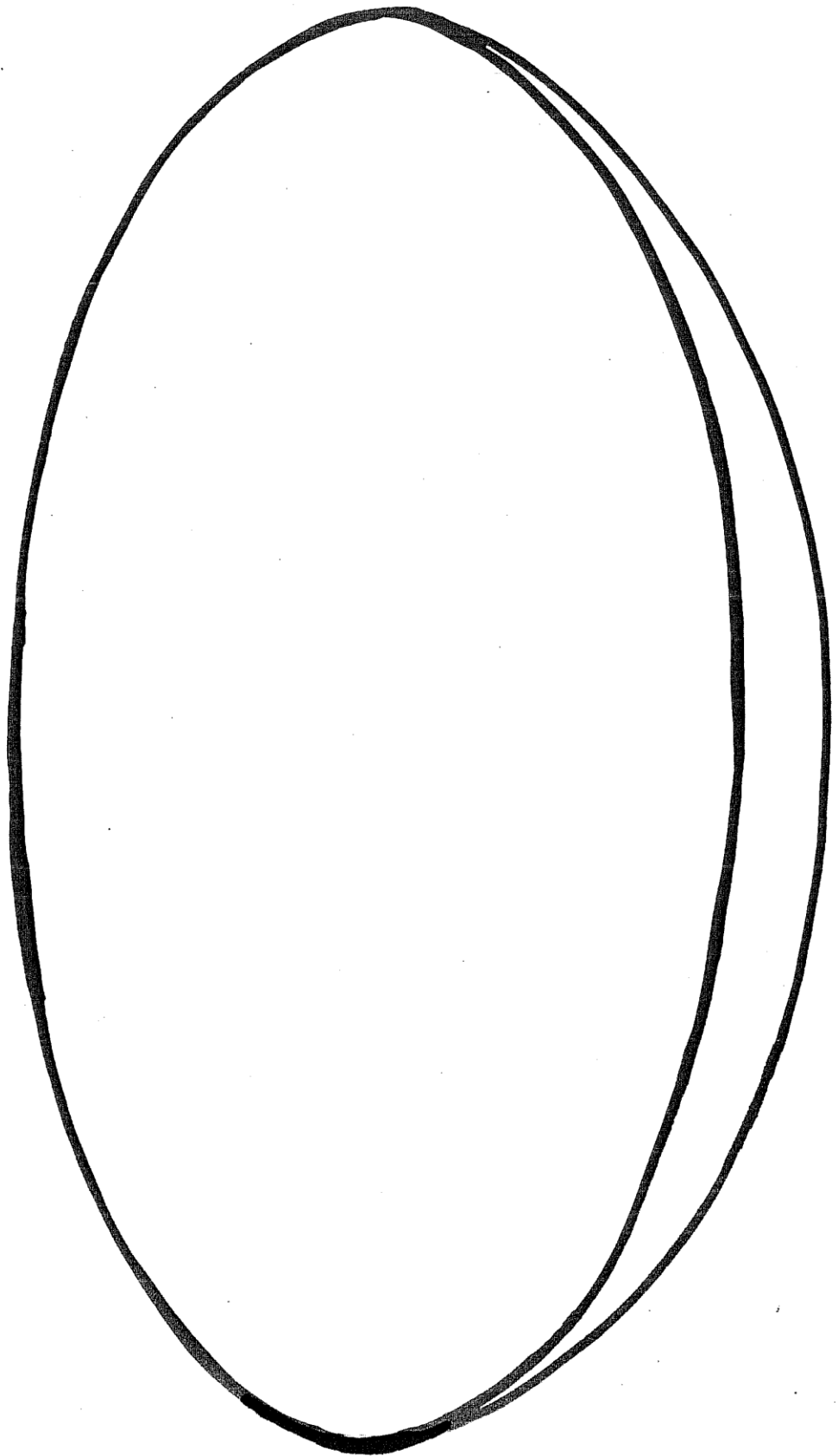
- 1. Fill wok with items (illustrated or cut out of magazines) that were brought to the family and label items.**
- 2. Compare/Contrast story with Jack and the Bean Stalk using a venn diagram.**

**Activity Attachments: Black line of an empty wok**

**Related Activity: Fried Rice recipe to try at the end of the story**

**Created By: Charisse Tsukamoto**





# **Snow Dog's Journey**

**By Loretta Krupinski**  
**Illustrated By Loretta Krupinski**

**Synopsis:** Instead of making a snowman, brother and sister Olen and Anna make a snow dog. He is exceptionally beautiful. The Frost King spies the snow dog and takes him away to the Ice Palace. What are Olen and Anna going to do?

**Suggested Reading Date:** December

**Activity Description:** Complete the attached booklet for a fun way to retell the story. Children cut the pages out, put them in order and staple. Two blank pages give children an opportunity to add pages to the story.

**Related Websites:**

<http://www.childrensillustrators.com/illustrator-details/LKrupinski/id=2227/>

**Activity Attachments:** There are seven small pages using clip art including a title page.

**Created By:** Carol Steen



Frost King's Castle



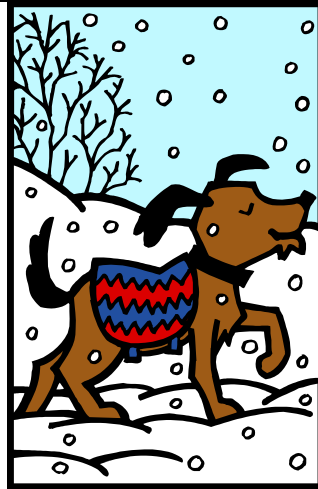
Frost King



Anna looks out the window.



Anna and Olen's Cottage



Snow Dog changes.



The fireplace warms Snow

Dog

# Snow Dog's Journey

By

LorettaKrupinski

# Star of the Sea

## By Janet Halfmann

### Illustrated By Joan Paley

**Synopsis:** An ochre sea star follows the rhythm of the tides to find food and avoid predators. The book has a great information section at the end containing many facts about this invertebrate.

**Suggested Reading Date:** Any time of the year, but would work nicely with a beach, tide pool, or aquarium field trip. It could also be used when there are news reports of extremely low tides.

#### **Activity Ideas:**

- 1) Create a KWL Chart: What do we know, what do we want to know, and what did we learn. Do the first two columns before reading the book and complete the third during or after reading.
- 2) Create a Prey and Predator, 2 column chart: List the animals the sea star eats on the Prey side (mussels, limpets) and the animals that try to eat the sea star on the Predator side (fish, seagull).
- 3) Sea star Facts: Using orange construction paper, have students cut out their own sea star, have them write a fact from the book on the sea star. Use the stars to create a bulletin board.

#### **Related Websites:**

Monterey Bay Aquarium (includes a sea star video)

[http://www.montereybayaquarium.org/efc/efc\\_splash/splash\\_animals\\_seastar.aspx](http://www.montereybayaquarium.org/efc/efc_splash/splash_animals_seastar.aspx)

Poulsbo Marine Science Center

<http://www.poulsbomsc.org/coastaljourny/tutorial.htm>

National Geographic

<http://animals.nationalgeographic.com/animals/invertebrates/starfish/>

Enchanted Learning

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/subjects/invertebrates/echinoderm/Seastarprintout.shtml>

Shedd Aquarium

<http://www.sheddaquarium.org/seastars.html>

Vancouver(BC) Aquarium

<http://www.vanaqua.org/learn/aquafacts/invertebrates/marine-invertebrates>

**Created By:** Dave Sonnen

# Squirrel's New Year Resolution

By Pat Miller

Illustrated By Kathi Ember

## Synopsis:

*"Do you know how to make a resolution?" Squirrel asked Bear. "Is it like making a snack?"*

*Bear laughed. "Resolutions are more important than snacks."*

*"More important than snacks?" said Squirrel. "What is a resolution?"*

Squirrel knows that New Year's Day is a great day for making resolutions! But what does it mean to make a resolution, anyway? As she makes visits around the forest she learns about New Year's resolutions and helps her friends get started on theirs. If only she can think of a resolution of her very own...

**Suggested Reading Date:** Before December break or just after return (January 1<sup>st</sup> resolutions discussed)

**Activity Description:** Students will make a resolution and write about what they intend to do (or what they did) for their New Year. They will also draw a picture of their activity.

**Related Websites:** Squirrel's New Year's Resolution book - [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AKMIUI6J0I)  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=AKMIUI6J0I](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AKMIUI6J0I) (5:43)

**Author's website:** <http://www.patmillerbooks.com/>

[http://www.highsmith.com/pdf/librarysparks/2011/lsp\\_jan11\\_rt\\_miller.pdf](http://www.highsmith.com/pdf/librarysparks/2011/lsp_jan11_rt_miller.pdf)  
[df](http://www.highsmith.com/pdf/librarysparks/2011/lsp_jan11_rt_miller.pdf) Reader's Theater and guide for the book by the author (pdf file)

**Activity Attachments:** (WORD document / writing template)

**Created By:** Kay Evey, Tukwila Elementary



# The Sunflower Sword

## By Mark Sperring

### Illustrated By Miriam Latimer

**Synopsis:** In a land filled with fire and smoke and endless fighting, where knights fight dragons, there lives a little knight who wants to be big like the others, and fight like the others, and have a sword like the others. But his mother won't let him. Instead of a sword, she gives him a sunflower, which, as it turns out, can be mightier than a sword.

**Suggested Reading Date:** Because of its message of peace, beginning of the year and World Peace day is Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Activity Description: Field of Sunflowers -** For this book I might do a sunflower craft and tie it to a pledge of non-violence. There are many online ideas for making sunflowers. I like this one because I have a lot of coffee filters and a large wall of windows for display (they look good with light behind them).

## Coffee Filter Sunflowers

by Melissa Yamello

### What you need

- 5 (per flower) - basket type coffee filters
- 2 - crayons (yellow and brown)
- 1 - pair of scissors (or safety scissors for small children)
- 1 - Glue stick



Lay 4 coffee filters on a flat surface and color the sides of each one yellow (leaving centers white).

### Step 2



Layer your yellow filters one on top of the other, fold in half and in half again. Use a [crayon](#) to draw the shape for the petals, as shown. Cut along this line - save your scraps!

Color the circle in the center of the remaining coffee filter brown and cut out. Set the brown circle aside, and discard the excess that you've cut off.

Open your filters and layer one on top of the other, turning each [flower](#) slightly. This creates a layered petal look. You don't want each petal to line up perfectly with the one underneath.

### Step 3

Using your [glue stick](#), apply glue to the center of each layer and glue one on top of the other.

Turn the brown circle over, and apply glue to the back. Scrunch up some of the scraps you have and stick them to center of the circle. These scraps will be the 'stuffing' for the center of your flower, and will make it appear 3D. Leave a



small margin so that the glue will stick to the flower(could also glue real seeds here).

Apply glue to the center of your flower. Turn the brown circle over and glue into the center of your flower, pressing the edges down. If there is any white showing from the center, just touch up with your yellow crayon.

### **Options**

Hang them on your walls (with a product like Fun Tac or Blue Stik) windows (they're pretty with the sun shining through) Add a long stem and 2 leaves if you want depending on room.

**Other ideas: plant sunflower seeds, eat sunflower seeds.**

### **Related Websites:**

<http://www.familycorner.com/family/kids/crafts/coffee-filter-sunflower.shtml> **The site I got the sunflower craft includes more photos that I didn't have room for.**

<http://familycrafts.about.com/od/cnydragoncrafts/a/ToiletPaperRollDragon.htm> **cute "fire breathing" dragon craft out of a toilet tissue tube**

<http://www.sunflowerusa.com/> **National Sunflower Association –facts, pictures, etc.**

<http://www.kidsforpeaceglobal.org/> **(where I got the pledge)**

<http://www.internationaldayofpeace.org/>

**Activity Attachments: non-violence pledge (could go on stem, center of flower, or make a poster and have all students sign it)**

I pledge to use my words to speak in a kind way.

I pledge to help others as I go throughout my day.

I pledge to care for our earth with my healing heart and hands.

I pledge to respect people in each and every land.

I pledge to join together as we unite the big and small.

I pledge to do my part to create PEACE for one and all.

**Created By: Kim Guyette**



# **WONDER HORSE**

## **Written and Illustrated By**

### **EMILY ARNOLD MCCULLY**

#### **Synopsis:**

Jim Key was a crippled colt who was loved and educated by freed slave Doc Bill Key. His intelligence was recognized by "Doc" and was trained to recognize the alphabet, primary colors and could even do some math. They traveled together demonstrating to everyone that kindness must be extended to animals as well as people.

#### **Suggested Reading Date:**

Your local humane society will have specific events for your community. Check with them about celebration dates to tie-in the reading of this book.

#### **Activity Description:**

\*Sponsor a food and pet supply collection for your local humane society.

\*Print activities you can select appropriate for each grade level at

<http://www.printactivities.com/Theme-Printables/Horse-Printables.html>

\*FOR 3<sup>RD</sup> GRADE in particular, dust off some oldies but goodies and get kids interested in chapter books about horses written by Walter Farley. This web site by his son, Tim Farley, gives background on the author. Many of his books are Lexiled at the 600 to 900 range. <http://theblackstallion.com/web/author/>

#### **Related Websites:**

<http://www.beautifuljimkey.com/heroes.htm>

This is a web site rich in the history about Doc and Jim Key. It was, however, created by another author, Mim E. Rivas who has written about these same characters.

<http://bridlepath.wordpress.com/2007/01/28/equine-prodigies>

Interesting article about "Equine Prodigies", Jim is not the only one...

<http://teva.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/landingpage/collection/jimkey>

This web site contains records of primary source materials about the extraordinary, and successful story of Doc and Jim Key.

<http://horseandman.com/horse-stories/the-beautiful-jim-key-2/>

Great, clear cut overview of the man and the horse.

<http://www.emilyarnoldmccully.com/index.html>

Author's website. Love the home page!!

**Created By: Dawn Smith**