

WASHINGTON CHILDREN'S CHOICE
PICTURE BOOK AWARD

2021 ACTIVITY PACKET



Be Kind
By: Pat Zietlow Miller
Illustrated: Jen Hill

Synopsis: When Tanisha spills grape juice all over her new dress, her classmate contemplates how to make her feel better and what it means to be kind. From asking the new girl to play to standing up for someone being bullied, this moving and thoughtful story explores what a child can do to be kind, and how each act, big or small, can make a difference--or at least help a friend. – from the publisher

Suggested Reading Date: Beginning of the year, World Kindness Day- Friday November 13th, 2020, Random Acts of Kindness Day- Wednesday February 17th, 2021.

Activity Descriptions:

- Use as a springboard to set classroom charters and norms about how to people want to feel at school.
- Discussions and lessons around kindness and empathy. You could discuss the power of a bystander. – there are links to several rich resources below
- Have kids create posters, art, bookmarks that celebrate kindness
- Work on building emotional vocabulary by asking for words to describe how different characters might feel.
- Teach about Random Acts of Kindness and encourage students to try to do them- you could even organize a challenge.
- Create a t-chart of actions “friends do” and “friends don’t”

Related Websites:

- Author website includes a video book trailer <https://www.patziertlowmiller.com>
- Artists website <http://jenhillstudio.com>
- Edutopia blog post on kindness in the classroom with lots of ideas and resources. <https://www.edutopia.org/blog/kindness-lesson-plan-rebecca-alber>
- Random Acts of Kindness Organization, a rich resource for lesson plans, quotes, and activities. <https://www.randomactsofkindness.org/for-educators>
- Reading Central Book highlight from RIF includes video read aloud and activities. <https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/book/be-kind>
- Positive Psychology.com lessons and ideas to teach kindness. <https://positivepsychology.com/kindness-activities-empathy-worksheets/>

Text to Text Connections: *I’m New Here, Last Stop on Market Street, Maddie’s Fridge, The Invisible Boy, Albert the Fix-it man, Each Kindness, The Kindness Quilt*

Created By: Paula Wittmann

Borrowing Bunnies
By: Cynthia Lord
Photographs: John Bald
Illustrated: Hazel Mitchell

Synopsis: A heartwarming tale of the author's own journey in fostering two very special bunnies. Peggotty and Benjamin, two Netherland Dwarf rabbits, were rescued by Cynthia's local animal sanctuary. But before they were ready to be adopted, Cynthia had to help them learn to trust people again and feel safe in a new home.

Suggested Reading Date: Sept 20, 2020 – National Rabbit Day

Activity Descriptions:

- Research the life cycle and habitats of rabbits.
- Write a persuasive letter to your family to let you foster a pet.
- Use a Venn diagram to compare and contrast Peggotty and Benjamin.
- Read *Hot Rod Hamster* by same author and discuss differences and similarities.
- Pair with *Rescue and Jessica* and discuss training/raising an animal in order to rehome it.

Related Websites:

- Author's webpage: <http://www.cynthialord.com/borrowing-bunnies.html>
- Photographer's webpage: <http://www.johnbald.net/bb/index.html>
- Photographer John Bald's gallery of photos he took for *Borrowing Bunnies* that didn't get chosen for the book (but are pretty cute anyway).
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/johnbald/sets/72157701173126281/>
- Illustrator's webpage: <http://www.hazelmitchell.com/>
- Cynthia Lord's next book "Petunia Took Her Time"
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RoOUhYQtvXk&feature=youtu.be>
- Coloring pages of borrowing bunnies <http://www.cynthialord.com/pdf/Borrowing-Bunnies-coloring-page.pdf>

Text to Text Connections:

Little Pink Pup by Johanna Kerby
Petunia Took her Time by Cynthia Lord
Shelter Pet Squad series by Cynthia Lord

Created By: Charleen Lee

The Boy Who Invented the Popsicle
The Cool Science Behind Frank Epperson's Famous Frozen Treat
By: Anne Renaud
Illustrated: Milan Pavlović

Synopsis: Frank William Epperson is a curious boy who wants to be an inventor when he grows up. Since inventing begins with experimenting, Frank spends a lot of time in his laboratory (i.e. his back porch) trying out his ideas, such as building a double-handled handcar that whizzes past the single-handled cars in his neighborhood. What Frank loves most, though, is experimenting with liquids. When he invents his own yummy flavored soda water drink, his friends love it! And this gets him to thinking, "I wonder what this drink would taste like frozen?" Though he does not yet realize it, his curiosity will lead to his best invention ever: The Popsicle!

Suggested Reading Dates: National Cherry Popsicle Day is August 26th. National Inventors' Day is February 11th.

Activity Descriptions:

- Create your own new flavor of popsicle. See the grade level booklets on the WCCPBA Website under "Resources" for more information regarding this fine activity.
- Use this book as a springboard for an invention convention (creating your own invention) or biography night of the notables at your school.
- Research some fun inventions using print or on-line sources.

Related Websites:

- Author's Website through Kids Can Press: <http://annerenaud.net/>
- Illustrator Website through Kids Can Press:
- Information About Frank Epperson: <https://www.popsicle.com/our-story>
- NPR Article: <https://www.npr.org/sections/thesalt/2015/07/22/425294957/how-an-11-year-old-boy-invented-the-popsicle>

Text to Text Connections: *Whoosh!: Lonnie Johnson's Super-Soaking Stream of Inventions* by Chris Barton, *The Day-Glo Brothers* by Chris Barton, *The Boo-Boos That Changed the World: A True Story About an Accidental Invention (Really!)* by Barry Wittenstein, *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* by William Kamkwamba, *Magic Ramen: The Story of Momofuku Ando* by Andrea Wang

Created By: Stephanie Wilson

Cyril and Pat

Written and Illustrated By: Emily Gravett

Synopsis: What will Cyril do when he discovers that his best friend is a rat and not another squirrel?

Suggested Reading Date: Thursday, January 21 (Squirrel Appreciation Day) or Around Sunday, April 4 (World Rat Day)

Activity Descriptions:

- **T Chart:** Label the top of the chart with "Squirrel" and "Rat." Have students working as a class, small groups, or partners list the attributes of each animal.
- **Venn Diagram:** Label one circle "Squirrel" and one "Rat." Students can list attributes of both when the circles overlap. You could use the T-Chart activity in tandem with this one if you need a longer activity. You could do this activity as a class, in small groups, or with partners depending on time or skill.
- **Draw Cyril and Pat:** Use Emily Gravett's video (part 1) and draw Cyril and Pat. If you have a shorter time just do the Cyril part (1st part) of video (link below)

Related Websites:

- Emily Gravett draws Cyril and Pat, Part 1 (how to draw video): https://youtu.be/_qTs4qBmhDs
- Emily Gravett draws Cyril and Pat, Part 2 (mostly on painting): <https://youtu.be/IR-1RIPJRUU>
- Emily Gravett reads her book: <https://youtu.be/b45BR6MtbCA>
- Emily Gravett's Website: <https://www.emilygravett.com/>

Text to Text Connections:

Squirrel's New Year's Resolution by Pat Miller

Those Darn Squirrels! by Adam Rubin

Secret Life of Squirrels, The by Nancy Rose

Scaredy Squirrel by Melanie Watt

Peanut by Linas Alsenas

Created By: Dave Sonnen

Don't Call Me Bear!

Written and Illustrated By: Aaron Blabey

Synopsis: Ever been called by a different name? Yeah, I think we all have once or twice (unless you are a twin – then more often!) WELL, poor Warren gets called the wrong name ALL the TIME! He is a marsupial – not a BEAR! And he would like to set the record straight!

Suggested Reading Date: September is Save the Koala's Month
May 3rd is National Koala Day
November 7th is Hug a Bear Day

Activity Descriptions:

- Dress a koala bear
- Share with *The Bear Report* by Thyra Heder and use a Venn diagram comparing the information with polar bears and koalas
- Make a Koala Bookmark from Red Ted Art
- Create a Koala mask from My Poppet (I'd have them create yarn poms instead of fur)

Related Websites:

- Nat. Geo. Wild – Koala 101 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oI3ADcDH0Uc>
- Save the Koala Facts - <https://www.savethekoala.com/about-koalas/interesting-facts>
- Nat Geo. Kids 10 Facts - <https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/discover/animals/general-animals/ten-facts-about-koalas/>
- Scholastic Interview with Aaron Blabey - <http://www.scholastic.ca/books/authors&illustrators/aaron-blabey>
- Story Box Library presents Aaron Blabey - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7-v61LeXrhc>
- Red Ted Art - <https://www.redtedart.com/koala-bookmark-corner/>
- My Poppet - <https://mypoppet.com.au/makes/kids-craft-koala-mask-with-template/>

Text to Text Connections:

The Bear Report by Thyra Heder

Quit Calling Me Monster by John Jory

Climb Koala by Jennifer Szymanski

I am a Koala by Heather Kisson

Koala Bear: The Bear that is Not a Bear by Diana Star Helmer

Created By: Amy Cook

Llama Destroys the World

By: Jonathan Stutzman

Illustrated: Heather Fox

Synopsis: Eating too much pie causes Llama to rip his dancing pants, opening a black hole and threatening the entire universe.

Suggested Reading Date: Nov. 26th – Cake Day; Jan. 2nd – Science Fiction Day; Jan. 23rd or Mar. 14th – Pie Day; Apr. 29th – International Dance Day; May 1st – Space Day

Activity Descriptions:

- STEM connection – learn about black holes and sound waves or “cosmic vibrations”
- “Llama is a llama of science” – discuss what does that mean? Scientists use the scientific method. What was the llama’s process?
- Learn about llamas from books, databases, or online research
- List the sequence of events in the story by day - discuss days of the week
- Discuss cause and effect in the story and give other examples
- Discuss self-control and nutrition – don’t eat too much cake!,
- Ask, “If you could eat all of something, what would you eat?”
- Discuss mistakes and consequences
- Discuss that sometimes you can’t go around something, you just need to get through it.
- Have students draw their dancing pants or share their dance moves.

Related Websites:

- Author Website: <https://www.jonathanstutzman.com/>
- Illustrator’s Website: <https://www.adoodlefox.com/>
- Monica Sands’ Read Aloud: <https://youtu.be/sVkJvavY7PU>
- Stutz & Fox Books website includes activity pages & video trailer: <https://stutzandfoxbooks.com/books/llama-destroys-the-world/>
- Videos explaining black holes: (16 min. long) https://youtu.be/y8ymU_UBD3I
(3+ min. long) <https://youtu.be/X4fcI4PMvwg>
- Black Hole Song Video: <https://youtu.be/EMXpF6AECC8>
- Peru - Land of the Llamas Video: <https://youtu.be/pB0EMtupPsc>
- Ellie Explorer Learns All About Llamas (& colors) - Video for the younger students: <https://youtu.be/fKzFEDPmd4k>
- 5 Things You Didn’t Know About Llamas: <https://youtu.be/AQLs36FT8Sg>

Text to Text Connections:

The Epic Adventures of Huggie & Stick by Drew Daywalt

Llama, Llama Red Pajama by Anna Dewdney

The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle

Fat Cat by Margaret Read MacDonald

Created By: Alicia Rogers

Love, Z

Written and Illustrated By: Jessie Sima

Synopsis: A little robot named Z finds a message in a bottle signed, "Love, Beatrice" and, unable to learn what love is from other robots, sets out on a quest to find the answer. Author also wrote, [Not Quite Narwhal](#).

Suggested Reading Date: February for Valentine's Day

Activity Descriptions:

- Generate a list with students about what they think love is.
- Discussion: Why do you think a robot would not know what love is?
- Give students background information about how a note in a bottle ends up being washed ashore.
- Conclude with:

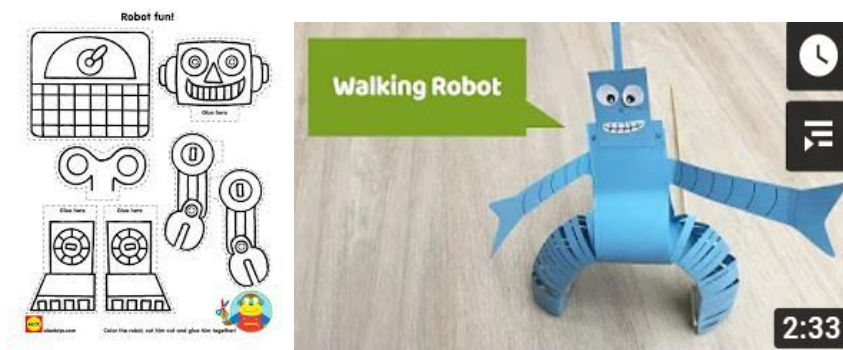
What or who do you think of that makes you feel cozy and warm?

What message do you think Z wrote in the letter for Beatrice?

Allow students to draw and write their responses. We love seeing students' work. Share at to: WCCPBA Twitter. These activities are in the student's activity booklet.

Related Websites:

- Author's Webpage: <https://www.jessiesima.com/>
- [Love, Z Activities by the Author:](https://d28hgpr18am2if.cloudfront.net/tagged_assets/4689016/9781481496773_as_love_z.pdf)
https://d28hgpr18am2if.cloudfront.net/tagged_assets/4689016/9781481496773_as_love_z.pdf
- Make a Paper Walking Robot: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N4iAeqUIFYA>
- [Paper Robot Templates via Pinterest – Robot fun! example below](#)



Text to Text Connections:

Love Monster by Rachel Bright

Can I be Your Dog? by Troy Cummings

The Yuckiest, Stinkiest, Best Valentine Ever by Brenda Ferber

Created By: Charisse Tsukamoto

Magic Ramen

The Story of Momofuku Ando

By: Andrea Wang

Illustrated: Kana Urbanowicz

Synopsis: Inspiration struck when Momofuku Ando spotted the long lines for a simple bowl of ramen following World War II. Magic Ramen tells the true story behind the creation of one of the world's most popular foods. Every day, Ando Momofuku would retire to his lab, which is a little shed in his backyard. For years, he'd dreamed about making a new kind of ramen noodle soup that was quick, convenient, and tasty to feed the hungry people he'd seen in line for a bowl on the black market following World War II. "Peace follows from a full stomach," he believed. Day after day, Ando experimented. Night after night, he failed. But Ando kept experimenting. With persistence, creativity, and a little inspiration, Ando succeeded.

Suggested Reading Dates: November for Community Service Month, or during your school's STEM month.

Activity Descriptions:

(Text to World and Self Connections)

- Generate a list of ways people help the community (Community Services)
- Discussion about your school's Community Services
- Discussion about a time a science project or creation of something was not successful. What happened? What steps were taken to make corrections?
- Create a graph with students about their favorite type of ramen (instant, chicken, shrimp or beef flavored, spicy, etc.). Print out or cut out pictures of ramen for your graph. A pictograph using a bowl to represent votes would be fun with 2nd and 3rd graders.



Related Websites:

- Author's webpage <http://andreyawang.com/books/picture-books/magic-ramen/>
- You Tube about Momofuku Ando <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=asgpQP81ZqU>
- [How Momofuku Ando Invented Instant Noodles](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ejsnCn2mzIU)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ejsnCn2mzIU>
- You Tube: How instant noodles are made https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=riO5p_Qi8Vc

Text to Text Connections:

Carmela Full of Wishes by Matt De la Pena

Maddie's Fridge by Lois Brandt

What is Given from the Heart by Pat McKissack

Pop!: The Invention of Bubble Gum by Meghan McCarthy

The Kid Who Invented the Popsicle by Don Wulffson

Created By: Charisse Tsukamoto

My Papi Has a Motorcycle

By: Isabel Quintero

Illustrated: Zeke Pena

Synopsis: When Daisy Ramona zooms around her neighborhood with her papi on his motorcycle, she sees the people and places she's always known. She also sees a community that is rapidly changing around her.

Suggested Reading Date: Any time of year.

Activity Descriptions:

- Pair with *Once Upon a Cool Motorcycle Dude*.
- Create a list of what things do you like to do with your dad/uncle/father figure-type person.
- Daisy and her family are very knowledgeable about motorcycles and engines. Make a list of what you and your family are knowledgeable about, and share your list with your classmates.
- Pair with *Last Stop on Market Street* and compare how the communities are featured in the stories.
- Pair with *Chef Roy Choi and the Street Food Remix* and discuss community-based foods in your school.

Related Websites:

- Isabel Quintero's website <https://laisabelquintero.com/>
- NPR interview with Isabel Quintero on *My Papi Has a Motorcycle* <https://www.npr.org/2019/08/25/753746555/my-papi-has-a-motorcycle-pays-loving-tribute-to-a-california-childhood>
- Zeke Pena's website <https://www.zpvisual.com/#/moto/>
- Isabel Quintero reads her book <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qRwwxV9Qvvs>

Text to Text Connections:

Once Upon a Cool Motorcycle Dude by Kevin O'Malley

Last Stop on Market Street by Matt de la Pena

Chef Roy Choi and the Street Food Remix by Jacqueline Briggs Martin and June Jo Lee.

Created By: Monica Sands

Ogilvy

By: Deborah Underwood
Illustrated: T.L. McBeth

Synopsis: When Ogilvy moves to a new town, the possibilities feel endless. There are so many new bunny friends and fun things to do together! But in this town, bunnies in dresses play ball and knit socks, and bunnies in sweaters make art and climb rocks. Ogilvy wants to do everything—and won't let a sweater or a dress get in the way.

Suggested Reading Date: Anytime

Activity Descriptions:

- Pair with *The Sneetches* by Dr. Seuss and compare & contrast the treatment of Ogilvy with that of the Plain-Belly Sneetches. Also, compare the endings and how Ogilvy and his new community are the same and different from the Sneetch community on the beach.
- Declaring what you wear is very important in *Ogilvy*. Discuss the importance of clothing in how people treat you and make assumptions about what knowledge you have – would you ask someone wearing a princess dress to rescue a cat from a tree? Would you ask someone wearing a construction vest and construction hat how to bake a cake for a special occasion? Why not?
- Create an Ogilvy! See website below.

Related Websites:

- Create an Ogilvy! Click on Coloring Pages at the center of the webpage <http://www.tlmcbeth.com/ogilvy>
- Deborah Underwood's Webpage <https://www.deborahunderwoodbooks.com/index.html>
- T.L. McBeth's Webpage <http://www.tlmcbeth.com/>

Text to Text Connections:

The Sneetches by Dr. Seuss

Julian is a Mermaid by Jessica Love

Created By: Kathy Wallace

Once Upon a Goat

By: Dan Richards

Illustrated: Eric Barclay

Synopsis: A twisted fairy tale about a king and queen who wish for a child of their own . . . and end up with a baby goat.

Suggested Reading Date: February for love of whatever type of family you have.

Activity Descriptions:

- Discuss how families are different and have students share who are the members of their families, including pets.
- Guess which animal matches the word for the baby animal name.
- Make up sentences using two words that are homophones of each other.
- Research goats and their behaviors. Discuss whether they would be good family members.

Related Websites:

- Author's Webpage: <https://www.danrichardsbooks.com/>
- Illustrator's Webpage: www.ericbarclay.com
- Smithsonian's National Zoo Goats: <https://nationalzoo.si.edu/animals/goat>

Text to Text Connections:

Children Make Terrible Pets by Peter Brown

Wolfie the Bunny by Ame Dyckman

Gaston by Kelly DiPucchio

Created By: Charleen Lee

Rescue and Jessica: A Life Changing Friendship

By: Jessica Kensky and Patrick Downes

Illustrated: Scott Magoon

Synopsis: Jessica is severely injured in the Boston Marathon bombing in 2013. At the same time, a young Labrador named Rescue is trying to figure a new path forward after failing to make it as a guide dog. Together, they emphasize each other's strengths and make a better life together.

Suggested Reading Date:

- During Disability Awareness Month in October.
- Around the time of the Boston Marathon (usually, the third Monday in April)
- Aligned PACE Characteristics: Courage (May), Caring (December)

Activity Descriptions:

- Watch this video featuring the real life Rescue, Jessica, and co-author Patrick: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ju1onrlkK4w>
- Talk about the history of kids with disabilities in our schools, and how inclusion and mainstreaming helped kids succeed.
- Research other uses of guide and support animals in the school and workplace; have the students give a Google slide presentation with what they learned.

Related Websites:

- Scott Magoon's Website: <https://scottmagoon.com/>
- Suggested Activities from Candlewick Press, the Publisher: https://candlewick.com/book_files/0763696048.btg.1.pdf
- NEADS World Class Service Dogs, the kennel that trained Rescue: <https://neads.org/>
- The Schneider Family Book Award: <http://www.ala.org/awardsgrants/schneider-family-book-award>

Text to Text Connections:

The Remember Balloons by Jesse Oliveros

A Boy and a Jaguar by Alan Rabinowitz

El Deafo by Cece Bell

Created By: Ryan Grant

A Royal Ride: Catherine The Great's Great Invention

By: Kristen Fulton

Illustrated: Lucy Fleming

Synopsis: Empress Catherine the Great, Queen of Russia loved her country, especially the snowy winters. Giant ice slides meant daring drops and thrilling rides for all! But every spring, warm weather melted the snow and the slides. What could Catherine the Great do to ensure fun all year round? With some ingenuity and some royal thinking, Catherine the Great would create her greatest invention.

Suggested Reading Date: Anytime

Activity Descriptions:

- For a STEM activity, build a marble run and/or a roller coaster using recycled materials from your building or from student's homes.
- Pair with *I Got a Chicken for My Birthday* to relate building roller coasters.
- Discussion Russian culture and history as it relates to the story.

Related Websites:

- Kristen Fulton's website <http://www.kristenfulton.org/>.
- Lucy Flemming's website: <https://www.lucyflemingillustrations.com/>
- MakerSpace Challenge – Design a roller coaster <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PaKtnAsqIt4> You will need the following items for each group of students (if they work in teams) – duct tape, plastic straws, paper, cardboard, a marble, and popsicle sticks.
- Early "Russian Mountains" Ice Slides <https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/russian-roller-coasters>

Text to Text Connections:

Roller Coaster by Kevin O'Malley

Roller Coaster by Marla Frazee.

Created By: Monica Sands

Ruby Finds a Worry

Written and Illustrated By: Tom Percival

Synopsis: A young girl's sense of adventure and exploration vanishes when she discovers a worry that grows and grows until she learns how to get rid of it.

Suggested Reading Date: Beginning of the School Year/Oct. 19th - National New Friends Day

Activity Descriptions:

- Discuss what made the worry grow and shrink and how students make their own worries grow and shrink.
- Have students draw a picture of their worry.
- Ask students to name people who they can talk to that help their worry to shrink.
- Have students cut out three different size circles and write on them a small worry, a medium worry, and a big worry that they sometimes have.
- Make a list of ways to get rid of a worry or what to do when you are worried.

Related Websites:

- Summary & Reviews: <https://www.bloomsbury.com/us/ruby-finds-a-worry-9781547602377/>
- Ruby's Worry Activity Pack: https://media.bloomsbury.com/rep/files/ruby_worry_activity_pack.pdf
- Tom Percival's website: <http://tom-percival.com/>
- Centre for Literacy in Primary Education's - Ideas to develop comprehension and extended provision: <https://clpe.org.uk/sites/default/files/Ruby%27s%20Worry%20by%20Tom%20Percival%20CLPE.pdf>

Text to Text Connections:

Butterflies on the First Day of School by Annie Silvestro

Lubna and Pebble by Wendy Meddour

Wemberly Worried by Kevin Henkes

Created By: Alicia Rogers

Skulls!

By: Blair Thornburgh
Illustrated: Scott Campbell

Synopsis: This smart, skull-positive story cheerfully dispels any fears kids might have about their skeletons, flipping our view of skulls from a spooky symbol to a fascinating, cool, and crucial part of our bodies.

Suggested Reading Date: Anytime, but I would avoid Halloween so we don't add to the perception that skulls are creepy.

Activity Descriptions:

- Pair with *Give Me Back My Bones* by Kim Norman and have students create skeletons.
- Bring in guests to do helmet fittings (fire department) and discuss the importance of protecting your head/brain/skull.
- Maker Space activity – using donated materials and/or materials from home, have students create a “helmet” for an egg that will withstand a drop from 2 feet/5 feet/10 feet/etc. Materials could include egg crates, boxes, tissue, paper towels, straws, rubber bands, popsicle sticks, etc.

Related Websites:

- Maker Space Egg Drop Activity <https://www.sciencebuddies.org/teacher-resources/lesson-plans/egg-drop-engineering-design>
- Author Blair Thornburgh Website <http://www.blairthornburgh.com/skulls/>
- Illustrator Scott Campbell Website <https://www.scottc.com/story>

Text to Text Connections:

Give Me Back My Bones by Kim Norman

Dem Bones by Bob Barner

Parts by Tedd Arnold

Created By: Kathy Wallace

Sweety

Written and Illustrated By: Andrea Zuill

Synopsis: Poor Sweety! She dances to a different drummer than all the other Naked Mole Rats! Her aunt says that she will “find her people”. Hmmm, I wonder if they have a secret handshake? Sweety finds that being the best you is very rewarding!

Suggested Reading Date: November 24th Unique Talent Day

Activity Descriptions:

- Create a matching game using idioms and their meanings – kids can write/draw on index cards
- Play the Unique Bingo – have the students go around and find someone do demonstrate their unique skill and sign the sheet!
- Grandma calls Sweety her “little Square Peg,” from the idiom “putting a square peg in a round hole.” Come up with other idioms and their meanings
- After reading *Sweety*, watch one of the videos about actual Naked Mole Rats – use a Venn Diagram to compare and contrast
- Create a secret hand shake with your people!
- Talk about how everyone’s normal is different than others, things that might be thought of as unusual or uninteresting.
- Pair this book with *A Normal Pig* by K-Fai Steele to discuss the ways in which people can be different and the same.

Related Websites:

- Idioms for Kids: <https://examples.yourdictionary.com/idioms-for-kids.html>
- Andrea Zuill’s Web Page (it is a little out of date): <http://www.andreazuill.org/>
- Unique Talent Day: <https://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/fun/celebrate-your-unique-talent-day>
- Nat Geo Kids Naked Mole Rat: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A5DcOEzW1wA>
- Discovery News Naked Mole Rat: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CevtR3L0XC4>
- How Do Naked Mole Rats Choose Their Queen?: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q9Yr_jE5pUE
- *A Normal Pig* Activity: <https://jilannehoffmann.com/2019/07/26/sweety-perfect-picture-book-friday/>

Text to Text Connections:

My Best Friend is as Sharp as a Pencil by Hanoch Piven, *Quick as a Cricket* by Audrey Wood, *A Normal Pig* by K-Fai Steele, *Naked Mole Rat Gets Dressed* by Mo Willems, *Stand Tall Molly Lou Melon* by Pat Lovell, *Woolbur* by Leslie Helakoski, *Big Hair, Don’t Care* by Crystal Swain-Bates, *Unicorn Thinks He’s Pretty Great* by Bob Shea, *Just Ask!* by Sonia Sotomayor, *Be You!* by Peter Reynolds, *Part of a Rainbow* by Asaf Rozanes, *It’s Okay to be Different* by Todd Park, *I like Me* by Nancy Carlson, *I Like Myself* by Karen Beaumont

Created By: Amy Cook

Take Your Pet to School Day

By: Linda Ashman

Illustrated: Suzanne Kaufman

Synopsis: When pets show up with their kids at Maple View Elementary, it's total chaos! These animals have no respect for school rules, and every class quickly gets out of hand. But why did they show up in the first place? Who said they could come? Could it have been...the pets themselves? It turns out they just wanted in on the fun! Now, if they want to stay, they'll just have to behave....

Suggested Reading Dates: National Pet Day is April 11th although this book would work at the beginning of the year in establishing school norms.

Activity Descriptions:

- Create your own pet parade with pets made out of lunch paper bags!
- Create a "T Chart" as a catalyst for the positives and negatives to bringing a pet to school. Have your class vote at the end of each class and keep an on-going tally.
- Write a letter to your principal as a class to convince him/her that there should be a "Take Your Pet to School Day."
- Bring in a local veterinarian or individual from a pet shelter to talk about pets

Related Websites:

- Author Website: <http://lindaashman.com/>
- Illustrator Website: <http://suzannekaufman.com/>
- Paper bag Pet Ideas via PBS: <https://www.pbs.org/parents/crafts-and-experiments/paper-bag-animals>
- T-Chart: <http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/printouts/T-Chart.pdf>

Text to Text Connections:

The Pigeon Has to Go to School by Mo Willems
Click Clack Moo Cows that Type by Doreen Cronin
I Wanna Iguana by Karen Kauffman Orloff

Created By: Stephanie Wilson

This Is NOT That Kind of Book

By: Christopher Healy

Illustrated: Ben Mantle

Synopsis: It's an ABC book.....no, it's a fairy tale.....no, it's a sci-fi romp on Mars....

In reality, though, it's a genre-bending story of friendship and expectations, and breaking out of your mold to make something new!

Suggested Reading Dates:

- The Week of September 19th, International Talk Like a Pirate Day
- April Fool's Day (this may be the better choice, when the kids are more comfortable with ideas like genre and characters)
- Aligned PACE Characteristics: Courage (May), Diligence (March)

Activity Descriptions:

- Play Mad Libs! The spirit of this book is changing expectations; go from the macro idea of the book to the micro idea of how individual word choices matter.
- A scavenger hunt in the library for books that fit the different genres in the story: ABC books, mystery books, pirate books, etc.
- Try a Progressive Story, where one student leads off, then the next adds on a sentence, and the story keeps going. It's fun to see where the kids take things!

Related Websites:

- Author Website: <https://christopherhealy.com/>
- Illustrator Website: <https://www.benmantle.co.uk/>
- The Official Mad Libs Website, with links to apps: <http://www.madlibs.com/>
- Random House website for the book: <http://rhcbbooks.com/books/567264/this-is-not-that-kind-of-book-by-christopher-healy-illustrated-by-ben-mantle>
- Progressive Stories: <http://www.reading-with-kids.com/progressivestories.html>

Text to Text Connections:

Duckworth, the Difficult Child by Michael Sussman

The Paper Bag Princess by Robert Munsch

I Want My Hat Back by Jon Klassen

Created By: Ryan Grant

Tiny Feet Between the Mountains

Written and Illustrated By: Hanna Cha

Synopsis: "In a Korean village where being strong and loud is valued, tiny Soe-in is ridiculed but when the sun disappears, Soe-in dares to find the spirit tiger and set things right. Includes note about the position of tigers in Korean culture"--Provided by publisher.

Suggested Reading Date: Start of the year to talk about traits of success, before Lunar New Year (since 2020 is the Year of the Tiger), during May for Asian American Heritage month.

Activity Descriptions:

- Soe-in has many strong character traits. Brainstorm words to describe her and have students back their ideas up with examples from the text. You could even have classes brainstorm ideas and then choose a favorite to make a word cloud. Traits that appear most frequently will be bigger in the cloud. (link to a word cloud maker below)
- Explore the authors website you might look at "Korean Stories Told in Alphabets" and talk about using research inspire and guide writing.
- Focus on the setting- when do you think this takes place? What can you tell about this village? You could compare the setting to pictures of modern Korea
- Use it as a jump off to look at tigers and other endangered animals.
- Compare to folktales that feature small but strong characters such as Momotaro the peach boy, Thumbelina, or Tom Thumb.
- Explore Korea- you could locate it on a map, look at a book or explore a database such as CultureGrams or an online Encyclopedia.
- Share an online exhibit "The Korean Tiger: Icon of Myth and Culture" from the National Museum of Korea available on Google Arts and Culture link below.

Related Websites:

- Author/Illustrator Website <https://hannacha.myportfolio.com>
- Word Cloud Maker <https://www.wordclouds.com>
- "The Korean Tiger: Icon of Myth and Culture" from the National Museum of Korea https://artsandculture.google.com/exhibit/the-korean-tiger-icon-of-myth-and-culture-national-museum-of-korea/rgIC_exZf_u-JA?hl=en

Text to Text Connections: *The Name Jar* by Choi Yangsook, *My Name is Yoon* by Helen Recorvits, *The Green Frogs* by Yumi Heo, *The Firekeeper's Son* by Linda Sue Park, *Where's Halmouni?* By Julie Kim

Created By: Paula Wittmann

The Very Impatient Caterpillar

Written and Illustrated By: Ross Burach

Synopsis: A caterpillar learns to be patient while trying to metamorphosize

Suggested Reading Date: Spring.

Activity Descriptions:

- **Waiting:** Have kids share some things that they had a hard time waiting for. (this can be done verbally, in writing, or by drawing).
- **Mindfulness:** Teach your students some mindfulness (awareness) techniques. (see related websites for ideas!)
- **Metamorphosis:** Discuss / share the stages of metamorphosis. Watch a video about butterfly metamorphosis: Have your students complete lifecycle coloring sheet (see related websites for links!)

Related Websites:

- Mindfulness for Kids Article: https://www.huffpost.com/entry/8-ways-to-teach-mindfulness-to-kids_b_5611721
- 25 Mindfulness Activities for Kids Article: <https://positivepsychology.com/mindfulness-for-children-kids-activities/>
- YouTube Video: 3 Minutes Body Scan Meditation: https://youtu.be/ihwcv_ofuME
- Downloadable Butterfly Life Cycle Coloring Page: <https://www.thebutterflysite.com/22-butterfly-coloring-pages.html>
- Downloadable Monarch Butterfly Life Cycle Coloring Page: <https://www.thebutterflysite.com/monarch-life-cycle.shtml>
- You Tube Video: Metamorphosis- Caterpillar to Butterfly for Children: <https://youtu.be/TvmQiWpgX5c>
- Complete Unit on Butterfly Life Cycles: https://museumoftherockies.org/uploads/Exhibits/Amazing_Butterflies_Curriculum_Guide.pdf

Text to Text Connections:

The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle

Butterfly Story by Anca Hariton

Butterfly Tree by Sandra Markle

Created By: Dave Sonnen