

We Are Going To Be Pals!

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Synopsis: A talkative cattle egret explains to a rhinoceros that in addition to having a symbiotic relationship, they also have a friendship built on communication, kindness, and a respect for boundaries.

Suggested Reading Date: September 22 (World Rhino Day); October 4 (World Animal Day)

Activity Descriptions:

- Research other animals that have symbiotic relationships.
- Find animal fiction that has animals working together.
- Pay attention to the non-verbal cues in the conversation.
- Research egrets and/or rhinoceroses.

Related Websites:

- Reading Rockets, Mark Teague – Author bio: <https://www.readingrockets.org/people-and-organizations/mark-teague>
- National History Museum, London – Mutualism – 8 symbiotic relationships: <https://www.nhm.ac.uk/discover/mutualism-examples-of-species-that-work-together.html>
- Wildlife Woods – 6 Surprising Symbiotic Relationships: <https://wildlifewoods.net/blog/2018/8/23/6-surprising-symbiotic-relationships>
- AZ Animals - 15 Animal Relationships That Work Together in the Wild: <https://a-z-animals.com/articles/animals-species-that-work-together-in-the-wild/>
- There are many websites and videos on this topic. Search terms: animal ____: symbiotic, mutualism, alliances.

Text to Text Connections:

- *Honey...Honey...Lion!* by Jan Brett
- *Cyril and Pat* by Emily Gravett
- *Nugget & Fang* by Tammi Sauer
- *This Way, Charlie* by Caron Levis
- *Ugly Five* by Julia Donaldson

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