

Woodpecker Wants a Waffle

By: Steve Breen

Illustrated: Steve Breen

Synopsis: "Benny the woodpecker makes a brilliant plan to eat a tasty plate of waffles"--Provided by publisher.

Suggested Reading Date: January 5th – National Bird Day, March 25th – Waffle Day

Activity Descriptions:

- Set the stage by cooking a waffle in a toaster to make the library smell good.
- Research woodpeckers then compare Benny to a real woodpecker
- Discuss perseverance and have students share personal stories of perseverance
- Teach Alliteration and create an animal food alliteration book for example "Elephant eats eggs" and "Chihuahuas chew chocolate"
- "Woodpeckers don't eat waffles!" Talk about society expectations and how they don't always match with personal goals
- Breen is a Pulitzer Prize winning cartoonist. Look at Breen's political cartoons to show the breadth of his work. Below is a link to his series on the homeless.
- Talk about saying used such as "swept away" and "got the boot"
- Create a woodpecker toy link below.

Related Websites:

- Activity Kit from the publisher- I especially like the cut out and take pictures of Benny and the page on story time tips <https://b0f646cfbd7462424f7a-f9758a43fb7c33cc8adda0fd36101899.ssl.cf2.rackcdn.com/activity-guides/AG-9780062342577.pdf>
- Idea/lesson sheet from Florida Association for Media in education <https://www.floridamediaed.org/uploads/6/1/4/2/61420659/woodpeckerwantsawaffle.pdf>
- Education Short National Geographic Film on Woodpeckers Storing Acorns <https://youtu.be/wFTm3A7HpxM>
- Perfect Picture Book Friday Blog Post with Teaching Ideas <https://thiskidreviewsbooks.com/2016/11/13/perfect-picture-book-friday-woodpecker-wants-a-waffle-by-steve-breen/>
- Lesson on Creative Thinking https://jcscgifted.weebly.com/uploads/7/9/0/2/7902434/creative_thinking_lesson_final.pdf
- Article and video of Steve Breen's homeless series of cartoons <http://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/opinion/steve-breen/sd-steve-breen-homeless-utak-20171222-story.html>
- Woodpecker paper toy <http://madebyjoel.com/2013/06/oscillating-bird-science-toy-for-kids.html>

Text to Text Connections: If you like this book, you might also want to use:

Lady Pancake and Sir French Toast, Everyone Loves Bacon, If you Give a Mouse a Cookie series, Woodpecker Wham, You Will be my Friend, Lights Out!

Created By: Paula Wittmann