

Alfie (The Turtle that Disappeared)

By: Thyra Heder

Illustrated: Thyra Heder

Synopsis: Told from the perspective of both the girl, Nia, and her pet turtle, Alfie, this story describes what happens when Alfie disappears on the eve of Nia's seventh birthday to find her a special present.

Suggested Reading Date: May 23, World Turtle Day
April 11, National Pet Day
April 17-23 International Turtle and Tortoise Week

Activity Descriptions:

- Invite a local pet store representative to visit with a pet turtle and explain to students the proper way to care for pet turtles.
- Create a "My Pet" bulletin board and encourage students and teachers to post pictures and/or drawings of their pets.
- Sequencing activity: After reading the story, have students sequence the events as Alfie traveled. Sequencing cards could be created and used for this activity (see attached sequencing cards).
- Hide a toy/stuffed turtle in various places throughout the library during the week of sharing "Alfie" and encourage students to find Alfie.P

Related Websites:

- Turtle Coloring Pages: http://www.momjunction.com/articles/turtle-coloring-pages_00104776/#gref
- Author's Webpage: www.thyraheder.com
- Pet turtle maze and coloring sheet (free): https://makingfriends.com/pet_turtle/
(I did a Google search for 'turtle maze' and got lots of results!)

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

Over and Under the Pond -- Kate Messner
All About Turtles -- Jim Arnosky
Turtles Take Their Time -- Allen Fowler
Turtle -- Lynn Hamilton (Caring for My Pet series)
Tiny Timothy Turtle -- Anna Leditschke
Box Turtle at Long Pond -- William T. George

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