

Norman Didn't Do It! (Yes, He Did.)

Written and Illustrated By: Ryan T. Higgins

Synopsis: Norman, a porcupine whose best friend is a tree named Mildred, begins to feel jealous when another tree grows close to Mildred and acts out against the tree new.

Suggested Reading Date: Most of these dates fall outside the reading calendar. National Friendship Day: July 30th, Porcupine Appreciation Day is July 2nd, Love a Tree Day is May 16th, Arbor Day is April 29th. The beginning of the year might be an ideal opportunity in providing a foundation in building friendships.

Activity Descriptions:

- Have a discussion regarding jealousy. Have students discuss where they have felt jealous toward a friend, classmate, or relative. Discuss strategies of how students can overcome feeling jealous.
- Have students draw a picture of a time that they felt jealous and how they overcame their feelings of jealousy.
- Story map the story as a class including characters, setting, problem, and solution.
- Compare and Contrast character traits of Norman the porcupine from *Norman Didn't Do It! (Yes, He Did.)* and Bruce the bear from *Mother Bruce* by Ryan T. Higgins.

Related Websites:

- Author's Website Via Disney: <https://books.disney.com/book-author/ryan-t-higgins/>
- Activity Pages: <https://books.disney.com/content/uploads/2021/03/NormanDidntDoIt-ActShts-2753-FINAL.pdf>
- YouTube Interview with Kim Carson: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tEfrED7DpL0>

Text to Text Connections:

I Want That Nut by Madeline Valentine

Neck and Neck by Elise Parsley

Enemy Pie by Derek Munson

Mother Bruce by Ryan T. Higgins

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