

Sloth and Squirrel in a Pickle

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Illustrated By: Kelly Collier

Synopsis: Sloth and Squirrel are good friends, but when Squirrel gets them jobs as pickle packers to earn money for a new bike, things do not go according to plan

Suggested Reading Date:

- National Pickle Day, Nov 14
- Make a Friend Day, Feb 11
- National Bike Month (May)

Activity Descriptions:

- Start talking/promoting to kids about “Bike to School Day” in May. National Center for Safe Routes to School provides many resources:
<https://www.walkbiketoschool.org/>
- Discuss what it means to work in a team. Sloth is slow, does that bother squirrel? What does sloth contribute? Squirrel? What does that look like at school? How can we do group activities so everyone helps?
- Do a teamwork activity:
 - Ray Center (Drake University) Teamwork Skills Lesson:
<https://raycenter.wp.drake.edu/2021/05/25/k-5-lesson-plan-teamwork/>
 - Weareteachers.com Team Building Games & Activities:
<https://www.weareteachers.com/team-building-games-and-activities/>

Related Websites:

- Author website, Cathy Ballou Mealy: <https://cathyballoumealey.wordpress.com>
- Illustrator “Kids Can Press” webpage, Kelly Collier:
<https://www.kidscanpress.com/creators/kelly-collier/909>
- Interview with Cathy Ballou Mealy about the book:
<https://deborahkalbbooks.blogspot.com/2021/05/q-with-cathy-ballou-mealey.html>
- Video, “How It’s Done” Pickle Making: <https://youtu.be/ETGrDcPrOZM>

Text to Text Connections:

The Cookie Fiasco by Dan Santat

Team Steve by Kelly Collier

Sloth at the Zoom by Helaine Becker

The Party by Sergio Ruzzier

Created By: Roman Maunupau