WASHINGTON CHILDREN’S CHOICE
PICTURE BOOK AWARD

2021 ACTIVITY PACKET
Be Kind
By: Pat Zietlow Miller
Illustrated: Jen Hill

Synopsis: When Tanisha spills grape juice all over her new dress, her classmate contemplates how to make her feel better and what it means to be kind. From asking the new girl to play to standing up for someone being bullied, this moving and thoughtful story explores what a child can do to be kind, and how each act, big or small, can make a difference—or at least help a friend. – from the publisher


Activity Descriptions:
• Use as a springboard to set classroom charters and norms about how to people want to feel at school.
• Discussions and lessons around kindness and empathy. You could discuss the power of a bystander. – there are links to several rich resources below
• Have kids create posters, art, bookmarks that celebrate kindness
• Work on building emotional vocabulary by asking for words to describe how different characters might feel.
• Teach about Random Acts of Kindness and encourage students to try to do them- you could even organize a challenge.
• Create a t-chart of actions “friends do” and “friends don’t”

Related Websites:
• Author website includes a video book trailer https://www.patzietlowmiller.com
• Artists website http://jenhillstudio.com
• Edutopia blog post on kindness in the classroom with lots of ideas and resources. https://www.edutopia.org/blog/kindness-lesson-plan-rebecca-alber
• Random Acts of Kindness Organization, a rich resource for lesson plans, quotes, and activities. https://www.randomactsofkindness.org/for-educators
• Reading Central Book highlight from RIF includes video read aloud and activities. https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/book/be-kind
• Positive Psychology.com lessons and ideas to teach kindness. https://positivepsychology.com/kindness-activities-empathy-worksheets/

Text to Text Connections: I’m New Here, Last Stop on Market Street, Maddie’s Fridge, The Invisible Boy, Albert the Fix-it man, Each Kindness, The Kindness Quilt

Created By: Paula Wittmann
Borrowing Bunnies
By: Cynthia Lord
Photographs: John Bald
Illustrated: Hazel Mitchell

Synopsis: A heartwarming tale of the author’s own journey in fostering two very special bunnies. Peggotty and Benjamin, two Netherland Dwarf rabbits, were rescued by Cynthia’s local animal sanctuary. But before they were ready to be adopted, Cynthia had to help them learn to trust people again and feel safe in a new home.

Suggested Reading Date: Sept 20, 2020 – National Rabbit Day

Activity Descriptions:

- Research the life cycle and habitats of rabbits.
- Write a persuasive letter to your family to let you foster a pet.
- Use a Venn diagram to compare and contrast Peggotty and Benjamin.
- Read Hot Rod Hamster by same author and discuss differences and similarities.
- Pair with Rescue and Jessica and discuss training/raising an animal in order to rehome it.

Related Websites:

- Author’s webpage: http://www.cynthialord.com/borrowing-bunnies.html
- Photographer’s webpage: http://www.johnbald.net/bb/index.html
- Photographer John Bald’s gallery of photos he took for Borrowing Bunnies that didn't get chosen for the book (but are pretty cute anyway). https://www.flickr.com/photos/johnbald/sets/72157701173126281/
- Illustrator’s webpage: http://www.hazelmitchell.com/
- Cynthia Lord’s next book “Petunia Took Her Time” https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RoOUhYQtvXk&feature=youtu.be

Text to Text Connections:
Little Pink Pup by Johanna Kerby
Petunia Took her Time by Cynthia Lord
Shelter Pet Squad series by Cynthia Lord

Created By: Charleen Lee
The Boy Who Invented the Popsicle
The Cool Science Behind Frank Epperson’s Famous Frozen Treat
By: Anne Renaud
Illustrated: Milan Pavlović

Synopsis: Frank William Epperson is a curious boy who wants to be an inventor when he grows up. Since inventing begins with experimenting, Frank spends a lot of time in his laboratory (i.e. his back porch) trying out his ideas, such as building a double-handled handcar that whizzes past the single-handled cars in his neighborhood. What Frank loves most, though, is experimenting with liquids. When he invents his own yummy flavored soda water drink, his friends love it! And this gets him to thinking, “I wonder what this drink would taste like frozen?” Though he does not yet realize it, his curiosity will lead to his best invention ever: The Popsicle!

Suggested Reading Dates: National Cherry Popsicle Day is August 26th. National Inventors’ Day is February 11th.

Activity Descriptions:
- Create your own new flavor of popsicle. See the grade level booklets on the WCCPBA Website under “Resources” for more information regarding this fine activity.
- Use this book as a springboard for an invention convention (creating your own invention) or biography night of the notables at your school.
- Research some fun inventions using print or on-line sources.

Related Websites:
- Author’s Website through Kids Can Press: http://annerenaud.net/
- Illustrator Website through Kids Can Press:
- Information About Frank Epperson: https://www.popsicle.com/our-story


Created By: Stephanie Wilson
Cyril and Pat
Written and Illustrated By: Emily Gravett

Synopsis: What will Cyril do when he discovers that his best friend is a rat and not another squirrel?

Suggested Reading Date: Thursday, January 21 (Squirrel Appreciation Day) or Around Sunday, April 4 (World Rat Day)

Activity Descriptions:

- **T Chart:** Label the top of the chart with “Squirrel” and “Rat.” Have students working as a class, small groups, or partners list the attributes of each animal.
- **Venn Diagram:** Label one circle “Squirrel” and one “Rat.” Students can list attributes of both when the circles overlap. You could use the T-Chart activity in tandem with this one if you need a longer activity. You could do this activity as a class, in small groups, or with partners depending on time or skill.
- **Draw Cyril and Pat:** Use Emily Gravett’s video (part 1) and draw Cyril and Pat. If you have a shorter time just do the Cyril part (1st part) of video (link below)

Related Websites:

- Emily Gravett draws Cyril and Pat, Part 1 (how to draw video): [https://youtu.be/_qTs4qBmhDs](https://youtu.be/_qTs4qBmhDs)
- Emily Gravett draws Cyril and Pat, Part 2 (mostly on painting): [https://youtu.be/lR-1RIPJR0U](https://youtu.be/lR-1RIPJR0U)
- Emily Gravett reads her book: [https://youtu.be/b45BR6MtbCA](https://youtu.be/b45BR6MtbCA)
- Emily Gravett’s Website: [https://www.emilygravett.com/](https://www.emilygravett.com/)

Text to Text Connections:

- *Squirrel’s New Year’s Resolution* by Pat Miller
- *Those Darn Squirrel’s!* by Adam Rubin
- *Secret Life of Squirrels, The* by Nancy Rose
- *Scaredy Squirrel* by Melanie Watt
- *Peanut* by Linas Alsenas

Created By: Dave Sonnen
Don’t Call Me Bear!
Written and Illustrated By: Aaron Blabey

Synopsis: Ever been called by a different name? Yeah, I think we all have once or twice (unless you are a twin – then more often!) WELL, poor Warren gets called the wrong name ALL the TIME! He is a marsupial – not a BEAR! And he would like to set the record straight!

Suggested Reading Date: September is Save the Koala’s Month
May 3rd is National Koala Day
November 7th is Hug a Bear Day

Activity Descriptions:
• Dress a koala bear
• Share with The Bear Report by Thyra Heder and use a Venn diagram comparing the information with polar bears and koalas
• Make a Koala Bookmark from Red Ted Art
• Create a Koala mask from My Poppet (I’d have them create yarn poms instead of fur)

Related Websites:
• Nat. Geo. Wild – Koala 101 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oI3ADcDH0Uc
• Save the Koala Facts - https://www.savethekoala.com/about-koalas/interesting-facts
• Nat Geo. Kids 10 Facts - https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/discover/animals/general-animals/ten-facts-about-koalas/
• Scholastic Interview with Aaron Blabey - http://www.scholastic.ca/books/authors&illustrators/aaron-blabey
• Story Box Library presents Aaron Blabey - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7v61LeXrhc
• Red Ted Art - https://www.redtedart.com/koala-bookmark-corner/

Text to Text Connections:
The Bear Report by Thyra Heder
Quit Calling Me Monster by John Jory
Climb Koala by Jennifer Szymanski
I am a Koala by Heather Kissock
Koala Bear: The Bear that is Not a Bear by Diana Star Helmer

Created By: Amy Cook
Llama Destroys the World
By: Jonathan Stutzman
Illustrated: Heather Fox

Synopsis: Eating too much pie causes Llama to rip his dancing pants, opening a black hole and threatening the entire universe.

Suggested Reading Date: Nov. 26th – Cake Day; Jan. 2nd – Science Fiction Day; Jan. 23rd or Mar. 14th – Pie Day; Apr. 29th – International Dance Day; May 1st – Space Day

Activity Descriptions:
- STEM connection – learn about black holes and sound waves or “cosmic vibrations”
- “Llama is a llama of science” – discuss what does that mean? Scientists use the scientific method. What was the llama’s process?
- Learn about llamas from books, databases, or online research
- List the sequence of events in the story by day - discuss days of the week
- Discuss cause and effect in the story and give other examples
- Discuss self-control and nutrition – don’t eat too much cake!
- Ask, “If you could eat all of something, what would you eat?”
- Discuss mistakes and consequences
- Discuss that sometimes you can’t go around something, you just need to get through it.
- Have students draw their dancing pants or share their dance moves.

Related Websites:
- Author Website: https://www.jonathanstutzman.com/
- Illustrator’s Website: https://www.adoodlefox.com/
- Monica Sands’ Read Aloud: https://youtu.be/sVkgGvavY7PU
- Stutz & Fox Books website includes activity pages & video trailer: https://stutzandfoxbooks.com/books/llama-destroys-the-world/
- Videos explaining black holes: (16 min. long) https://youtu.be/y8ymUvBD3I
  (3+ min. long) https://youtu.be/X4fc14PMvkw
- Black Hole Song Video: https://youtu.be/EMXpF6AECC8
- Peru - Land of the Llamas Video: https://youtu.be/pB0EMtupPSc
- Ellie Explorer Learns All About Llamas (& colors) - Video for the younger students: https://youtu.be/fKzFEDPmd4k
- 5 Things You Didn’t Know About Llamas: https://youtu.be/AQLs36FT8Sg

Text to Text Connections:
The Epic Adventures of Huggie & Stick by Drew Daywalt
Llama, Llama Red Pajama by Anna Dewdney
The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle
Fat Cat by Margaret Read MacDonald

Created By: Alicia Rogers
Love, Z  
Written and Illustrated By: Jessie Sima

Synopsis: A little robot named Z finds a message in a bottle signed, "Love, Beatrice" and, unable to learn what love is from other robots, sets out on a quest to find the answer. Author also wrote, Not Quite Narwhal.

Suggested Reading Date: February for Valentine’s Day

Activity Descriptions:
- Generate a list with students about what they think love is.
- Discussion: Why do you think a robot would not know what love is?
- Give students background information about how a note in a bottle ends up being washed ashore.
- Conclude with:
  What or who do you think of that makes you feel cozy and warm?
  What message do you think Z wrote in the letter for Beatrice?

Allow students to draw and write their responses. We love seeing students’ work. Share at to: WCCPBA Twitter. These activities are in the student’s activity booklet.

Related Websites:
- Author’s Webpage: https://www.jessiesima.com/
- Love, Z Activities by the Author: https://d28hpri8am2if.cloudfront.net/tagged_assets/4689016/9781481496773_as_love_z.pdf
- Make a Paper Walking Robot: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N4iAeqUIFYA
- Paper Robot Templates via Pinterest – Robot fun! example below

Text to Text Connections:
Love Monster by Rachel Bright
Can I be Your Dog? by Troy Cummings
The Yuckiest, Stinkiest, Best Valentine Ever by Brenda Ferber

Created By: Charisse Tsukamoto
Magic Ramen
The Story of Momofuku Ando
By: Andrea Wang
Illustrated: Kana Urbanowicz

Synopsis: Inspiration struck when Momofuku Ando spotted the long lines for a simple bowl of ramen following World War II. Magic Ramen tells the true story behind the creation of one of the world's most popular foods. Every day, Ando Momofuku would retire to his lab, which is a little shed in his backyard. For years, he'd dreamed about making a new kind of ramen noodle soup that was quick, convenient, and tasty to feed the hungry people he'd seen in line for a bowl on the black market following World War II. "Peace follows from a full stomach," he believed. Day after day, Ando experimented. Night after night, he failed. But Ando kept experimenting. With persistence, creativity, and a little inspiration, Ando succeeded.

Suggested Reading Dates: November for Community Service Month, or during your school’s STEM month.

Activity Descriptions:
(Text to World and Self Connections)
- Generate a list of ways people help the community (Community Services)
- Discussion about your school’s Community Services
- Discussion about a time a science project or creation of something was not successful. What happened? What steps were taken to make corrections?
- Create a graph with students about their favorite type of ramen (instant, chicken, shrimp or beef flavored, spicy, etc.). Print out or cut out pictures of ramen for your graph. A pictograph using a bowl to represent votes would be fun with 2nd and 3rd graders.

Related Websites:
- Author’s webpage http://andreaywang.com/books/picture-books/magic-ramen/
- You Tube about Momofuku Ando https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=asgpQP81ZqU
- How Momofuku Ando Invented Instant Noodles https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ejsnCn2mzU
- You Tube: How instant noodles are made https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ri05p_Qi8Vc

Text to Text Connections:
Carmela Full of Wishes by Matt De la Pena
Maddie’s Fridge by Lois Brandt
What is Given from the Heart by Pat McKissack
Pop!: The Invention of Bubble Gum by Meghan McCarthy
The Kid Who Invented the Popsicle by Don Wulffson

Created By: Charisse Tsukamoto
My Papi Has a Motorcycle
By: Isabel Quintero
Illustrated: Zeke Pena

Synopsis: When Daisy Ramona zooms around her neighborhood with her papi on his motorcycle, she sees the people and places she's always known. She also sees a community that is rapidly changing around her.

Suggested Reading Date: Any time of year.

Activity Descriptions:
- Pair with *Once Upon a Cool Motorcycle Dude*.
- Create a list of what things do you like to do with your dad/uncle/father figure-type person.
- Daisy and her family are very knowledgeable about motorcycles and engines. Make a list of what you and your family are knowledgeable about, and share your list with your classmates.
- Pair with *Last Stop on Market Street* and compare how the communities are featured in the stories.
- Pair with *Chef Roy Choi and the Street Food Remix* and discuss community-based foods in your school.

Related Websites:
- Isabel Quintero’s website https://laisabelquintero.com/
- Zeke Pena’s website https://www.zpvisual.com/#/moto/
- Isabel Quintero reads her book https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qRwwxV9Qvvs

Text to Text Connections:
*Once Upon a Cool Motorcycle Dude* by Kevin O’Malley
*Last Stop on Market Street* by Matt de la Pena
*Chef Roy Choi and the Street Food Remix* by Jacqueline Briggs Martin and June Jo Lee.

Created By: Monica Sands
Ogilvy
By: Deborah Underwood
Illustrated: T.L. McBeth

Synopsis: When Ogilvy moves to a new town, the possibilities feel endless. There are so many new bunny friends and fun things to do together! But in this town, bunnies in dresses play ball and knit socks, and bunnies in sweaters make art and climb rocks. Ogilvy wants to do everything—and won’t let a sweater or a dress get in the way.

Suggested Reading Date: Anytime

Activity Descriptions:
- Pair with *The Sneetches* by Dr. Seuss and compare & contrast the treatment of Ogilvy with that of the Plain-Belly Sneetches. Also, compare the endings and how Ogilvy and his new community are the same and different from the Sneetch community on the beach.
- Declaring what you wear is very important in *Ogilvy*. Discuss the importance of clothing in how people treat you and make assumptions about what knowledge you have – would you ask someone wearing a princess dress to rescue a cat from a tree? Would you ask someone wearing a construction vest and construction hat how to bake a cake for a special occasion? Why not?
- Create an Ogilvy! See website below.

Related Websites:
- Create an Ogilvy! Click on Coloring Pages at the center of the webpage [http://www.tlmcbeth.com/ogilvy](http://www.tlmcbeth.com/ogilvy)

Text to Text Connections:
*The Sneetches* by Dr. Seuss
*Julian is a Mermaid* by Jessica Love

Created By: Kathy Wallace
Once Upon a Goat  
By: Dan Richards  
Illustrated: Eric Barclay

Synopsis: A twisted fairy tale about a king and queen who wish for a child of their own . . . and end up with a baby goat.

Suggested Reading Date: February for love of whatever type of family you have.

Activity Descriptions:

- Discuss how families are different and have students share who are the members of their families, including pets.
- Guess which animal matches the word for the baby animal name.
- Make up sentences using two words that are homophones of each other.
- Research goats and their behaviors. Discuss whether they would be good family members.

Related Websites:

- Author’s Webpage: https://www.danrichardsbooks.com/
- Illustrator’s Webpage: www.ericbarclay.com
- Smithsonian’s National Zoo Goats: https://nationalzoo.si.edu/animals/goat

Text to Text Connections:
Children Make Terrible Pets by Peter Brown
Wolffie the Bunny by Ame Dyckman
Gaston by Kelly DiPucchio

Created By: Charleen Lee
Rescue and Jessica: A Life Changing Friendship
By: Jessica Kensky and Patrick Downes
Illustrated: Scott Magoon

Synopsis: Jessica is severely injured in the Boston Marathon bombing in 2013. At the same time, a young Labrador named Rescue is trying to figure a new path forward after failing to make it as a guide dog. Together, they emphasize each other’s strengths and make a better life together.

Suggested Reading Date:
- During Disability Awareness Month in October.
- Around the time of the Boston Marathon (usually, the third Monday in April)
- Aligned PACE Characteristics: Courage (May), Caring (December)

Activity Descriptions:
- Watch this video featuring the real life Rescue, Jessica, and co-author Patrick: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ju1onrlkK4w
- Talk about the history of kids with disabilities in our schools, and how inclusion and mainstreaming helped kids succeed.
- Research other uses of guide and support animals in the school and workplace; have the students give a Google slide presentation with what they learned.

Related Websites:
- Scott Magoon’s Website: https://scottmagoon.com/
- Suggested Activities from Candlewick Press, the Publisher: https://candlewick.com/book_files/0763696048.btg.1.pdf
- NEADS World Class Service Dogs, the kennel that trained Rescue: https://neads.org/
- The Schneider Family Book Award: http://www.ala.org/awardsgrants/schneider-family-book-award

Text to Text Connections:
The Remember Balloons by Jesse Oliveros
A Boy and a Jaguar by Alan Rabinowitz
El Deafo by Cece Bell

Created By: Ryan Grant
A Royal Ride: Catherine The Great’s Great Invention
By: Kristen Fulton
Illustrated: Lucy Fleming

Synopsis: Empress Catherine the Great, Queen of Russia loved her country, especially the snowy winters. Giant ice slides meant daring drops and thrilling rides for all! But every spring, warm weather melted the snow and the slides. What could Catherine the Great do to ensure fun all year round? With some ingenuity and some royal thinking, Catherine the Great would create her greatest invention.

Suggested Reading Date: Anytime

Activity Descriptions:
• For a STEM activity, build a marble run and/or a roller coaster using recycled materials from your building or from student’s homes.
• Pair with I Got a Chicken for My Birthday to relate building roller coasters.
• Discussion Russian culture and history as it relates to the story.

Related Websites:
• Kristen Fulton’s website http://www.kristenfulton.org/.
• Lucy Flemming’s website: https://www.lucyflemingillustrations.com/
• MakerSpace Challenge – Design a roller coaster https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PaKtnAsqlt4 You will need the following items for each group of students (if they work in teams) – duct tape, plastic straws, paper, cardboard, a marble, and popsicle sticks.
• Early “Russian Mountains” Ice Slides https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/russian-roller-coasters

Text to Text Connections:
Roller Coaster by Kevin O’Malley
Roller Coaster by Marla Frazee.

Created By: Monica Sands
Ruby Finds a Worry  
Written and Illustrated By: Tom Percival

**Synopsis:** A young girl’s sense of adventure and exploration vanishes when she discovers a worry that grows and grows until she learns how to get rid of it.

**Suggested Reading Date:** Beginning of the School Year/Oct. 19th - National New Friends Day

**Activity Descriptions:**
- Discuss what made the worry grow and shrink and how students make their own worries grow and shrink.
- Have students draw a picture of their worry.
- Ask students to name people who they can talk to that help their worry to shrink.
- Have students cut out three different size circles and write on them a small worry, a medium worry, and a big worry that they sometimes have.
- Make a list of ways to get rid of a worry or what to do when you are worried.

**Related Websites:**
- Tom Percival’s website: [http://tom-percival.com/](http://tom-percival.com/)
- Centre for Literacy in Primary Education’s - Ideas to develop comprehension and extended provision: [https://clpe.org.uk/sites/default/files/Ruby%27s%20Worry%20by%20Tom%20Percival%20CLPE.pdf](https://clpe.org.uk/sites/default/files/Ruby%27s%20Worry%20by%20Tom%20Percival%20CLPE.pdf)

**Text to Text Connections:**
*Butterflies on the First Day of School* by Annie Silvestro  
*Lubna and Pebble* by Wendy Meddour  
*Wemberly Worried* by Kevin Henkes

**Created By:** Alicia Rogers
Skulls!
By: Blair Thornburgh
Illustrated: Scott Campbell

Synopsis: This smart, skull-positive story cheerfully dispels any fears kids might have about their skeletons, flipping our view of skulls from a spooky symbol to a fascinating, cool, and crucial part of our bodies.

Suggested Reading Date: Anytime, but I would avoid Halloween so we don’t add to the perception that skulls are creepy.

Activity Descriptions:
• Pair with Give Me Back My Bones by Kim Norman and have students create skeletons.
• Bring in guests to do helmet fittings (fire department) and discuss the importance of protecting your head/brain/skull.
• Maker Space activity – using donated materials and/or materials from home, have students create a “helmet” for an egg that will withstand a drop from 2 feet/5 feet/10 feet/etc. Materials could include egg crates, boxes, tissue, paper towels, straws, rubber bands, popsicle sticks, etc.

Related Websites:
• Maker Space Egg Drop Activity https://www.sciencebuddies.org/teacher-resources/lesson-plans/egg-drop-engineering-design
• Author Blair Thornburgh Website http://www.blairthornburgh.com/skulls/
• Illustrator Scott Campbell Website https://www.scottc.com/story

Text to Text Connections:
Give Me Back My Bones by Kim Norman
Dem Bones by Bob Barner
Parts by Tedd Arnold

Created By: Kathy Wallace
Sweety  
Written and Illustrated By: Andrea Zuill

**Synopsis:** Poor Sweety! She dances to a different drummer than all the other Naked Mole Rats! Her aunt says that she will “find her people”. Hmmm, I wonder if they have a secret handshake? Sweety finds that being the best you is very rewarding!

**Suggested Reading Date:** November 24th Unique Talent Day

**Activity Descriptions:**
- Create a matching game using idioms and their meanings – kids can write/draw on index cards
- Play the Unique Bingo – have the students go around and find someone do demonstrate their unique skill and sign the sheet!
- Grandma calls Sweety her “little Square Peg,” from the idiom “putting a square peg in a round hole.” Come up with other idioms and their meanings
- After reading Sweety, watch one of the videos about actual Naked Mole Rats – use a Venn Diagram to compare and contrast
- Create a secret hand shake with your people!
- Talk about how everyone’s normal is different than others, things that might be thought of as unusual or uninteresting.
- Pair this book with *A Normal Pig* by K-Fai Steele to discuss the ways in which people can be different and the same.

**Related Websites:**
- Idioms for Kids: [https://examples.yourdictionary.com/idioms-for-kids.html](https://examples.yourdictionary.com/idioms-for-kids.html)
- Andrea Zuill’s Web Page (it is a little out of date): [http://www.andreazuill.org/](http://www.andreazuill.org/)
- Unique Talent Day: [https://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/fun/celebrate-your-unique-talent-day](https://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/fun/celebrate-your-unique-talent-day)
- Nat Geo Kids Naked Mole Rat: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A5DcOEzW1wA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A5DcOEzW1wA)
- Discovery News Naked Mole Rat: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CevtR3L0XC4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CevtR3L0XC4)
- How Do Naked Mole Rats Choose Their Queen?: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q9Yr_iE5pUE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q9Yr_iE5pUE)

**Text to Text Connections:**
*My Best Friend is as Sharp as a Pencil* by Hanoch Piven, *Quick as a Cricket* by Audrey Wood

**Created By:** Amy Cook
Take Your Pet to School Day
By: Linda Ashman
Illustrated: Suzanne Kaufman

Synopsis: When pets show up with their kids at Maple View Elementary, it’s total chaos! These animals have no respect for school rules, and every class quickly gets out of hand. But why did they show up in the first place? Who said they could come? Could it have been...the pets themselves? It turns out they just wanted in on the fun! Now, if they want to stay, they’ll just have to behave....

Suggested Reading Dates: National Pet Day is April 11th although this book would work at the beginning of the year in establishing school norms.

Activity Descriptions:
- Create your own pet parade with pets made out of lunch paper bags!
- Create a “T Chart” as a catalyst for the positives and negatives to bringing a pet to school. Have your class vote at the end of each class and keep an on-going tally.
- Write a letter to your principal as a class to convince him/her that there should be a “Take Your Pet to School Day.”
- Bring in a local veterinarian or individual from a pet shelter to talk about pets

Related Websites:
- Author Website: http://lindaashman.com/
- Illustrator Website: http://suzannekaufman.com/

Text to Text Connections:
The Pigeon Has to Go to School by Mo Willems
Click Clack Moo Cows that Type by Doreen Cronin
I Wanna Iguana by Karen Kauffman Orloff

Created By: Stephanie Wilson
This Is NOT That Kind of Book  
By: Christopher Healy  
Illustrated: Ben Mantle

**Synopsis:** It’s an ABC book…..no, it’s a fairy tale……no, it’s a sci-fi romp on Mars....

In reality, though, it’s a genre-bending story of friendship and expectations, and breaking out of your mold to make something new!

**Suggested Reading Dates:**
- The Week of September 19th, International Talk Like a Pirate Day
- April Fool’s Day (this may be the better choice, when the kids are more comfortable with ideas like genre and characters)
- Aligned PACE Characteristics: Courage (May), Diligence (March)

**Activity Descriptions:**
- Play Mad Libs!  The spirit of this book is changing expectations; go from the macro idea of the book to the micro idea of how individual word choices matter.
- A scavenger hunt in the library for books that fit the different genres in the story: ABC books, mystery books, pirate books, etc.
- Try a Progressive Story, where one student leads off, then the next adds on a sentence, and the story keeps going.  It’s fun to see where the kids take things!

**Related Websites:**
- Author Website: [https://christopherhealy.com/](https://christopherhealy.com/)
- Illustrator Website: [https://www.benmantle.co.uk/](https://www.benmantle.co.uk/)
- The Official Mad Libs Website, with links to apps: [http://www.madlibs.com/](http://www.madlibs.com/)

**Text to Text Connections:**
*Duckworth, the Difficult Child* by Michael Sussman  
*The Paper Bag Princess* by Robert Munsch  
*I Want My Hat Back* by Jon Klassen

**Created By:** Ryan Grant
Tiny Feet Between the Mountains  
Written and Illustrated By: Hanna Cha

Synopsis: “In a Korean village where being strong and loud is valued, tiny Soe-in is ridiculed but when the sun disappears, Soe-in dares to find the spirit tiger and set things right. Includes note about the position of tigers in Korean culture”--Provided by publisher.

Suggested Reading Date: Start of the year to talk about traits of success, before Lunar New Year (since 2020 is the Year of the Tiger), during May for Asian American Heritage month.

Activity Descriptions:
- Soe-in has many strong character traits. Brainstorm words to describe her and have students back their ideas up with examples from the text. You could even have classes brainstorm ideas and then choose a favorite to make a word cloud. Traits that appear most frequently will be bigger in the cloud. (link to a word cloud maker below)
- Explore the authors website you might look at “Korean Stories Told in Alphabets” and talk about using research inspire and guide writing.
- Focus on the setting- when do you think this takes place? What can you tell about this village? You could compare the setting to pictures of modern Korea
- Use it as a jump off to look at tigers and other endangered animals.
- Compare to folktales that feature small but strong characters such as Momotaro the peach boy, Thumbelina, or Tom Thumb.
- Explore Korea- you could locate it on a map, look at a book or explore a database such as CultureGrams or an online Encyclopedia.
- Share an online exhibit “The Korean Tiger: Icon of Myth and Culture” from the National Museum of Korea available on Google Arts and Culture link below.

Related Websites:
- Author/Illustrator Website https://hannacha.myportfolio.com  
- Word Cloud Maker https://www.wordclouds.com  

Text to Text Connections: The Name Jar by Choi Yangsook, My Name is Yoon by Helen Recorvits, The Green Frogs by Yumi Heo, The Firekeeper’s Son by Linda Sue Park, Where’s Halmouni? By Julie Kim

Created By: Paula Wittmann
The Very Impatient Caterpillar  
Written and Illustrated By: Ross Burach

**Synopsis:** A caterpillar learns to be patient while trying to metamorphosize

**Suggested Reading Date:** Spring.

**Activity Descriptions:**
- **Waiting:** Have kids share some things that they had a hard time waiting for. (this can be done verbally, in writing, or by drawing).
- **Mindfulness:** Teach your students some mindfulness (awareness) techniques. (see related websites for ideas!)
- **Metamorphosis:** Discuss / share the stages of metamorphosis. Watch a video about butterfly metamorphosis: Have your students complete lifecycle coloring sheet (see related websites for links!)

**Related Websites:**
- Mindfulness for Kids Article: [https://www.huffpost.com/entry/8-ways-to-teach-mindfulness-to-kids_b_5611721](https://www.huffpost.com/entry/8-ways-to-teach-mindfulness-to-kids_b_5611721)
- YouTube Video: 3 Minutes Body Scan Meditation: [https://youtu.be/IhwCv_ofuME](https://youtu.be/IhwCv_ofuME)
- You Tube Video: Metamorphosis- Caterpillar to Butterfly for Children: [https://youtu.be/TvmQiWpqx5c](https://youtu.be/TvmQiWpqx5c)

**Text to Text Connections:**
The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle  
Butterfly Story by Anca Hariton  
Butterfly Tree by Sandra Markle

**Created By:** Dave Sonnen