

# WASHINGTON CHILDREN'S CHOICE PICTURE BOOK AWARD

## 2019 ACTIVITY PACKET



# **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](http://www.momjunction.com/articles/turtle-coloring-pages_00104776/#gref)
- Author's Webpage: [www.thyraheder.com](http://www.thyraheder.com)
- Pet turtle maze and coloring sheet (free): [https://makingfriends.com/pet\\_turtle/](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

**Created By: Barb Hagerty**

# **The Bad Seed**

## **By: Jory John**

### **Illustrated: Pete Oswald**

**Synopsis:** A bad seed who cuts in line, never washes his hands or feet and lies. Can a bad seed change his ways?

**Suggested Reading Date:** Fall (Celebrate Sunflowers) or Anytime

#### **Activity Descriptions:**

- Make a sunflower using handprints, paper towel tube and real sunflower seeds in the middle circle.
- Make a seed puppet or a stick with seeds to tell story.
- Use this book during a plant unit, discuss what a seed needs grow and be good. (water, soil, air, sunlight).
- Seed sorting, use a box lid and place a variety of seeds in box for students to play in and search for seeds that are cracked or not formed all the way.
- Writing activities can be found on Pinterest.com and TeachersPayTeachers.com

#### **Related Websites:**

- Author's Website: <http://www.joryjohn.com/>
- Illustrator's Tumblr: <http://peteoswald.tumblr.com/>
- Interactive Read Aloud with activity: <http://www.maistorybook.com>
- Book Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1jOlvsf1pK8>
- Read Aloud: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CaD4QCc4T5c>

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

- *After the Fall (How Humpty Got Back Up Again)*-- Dan Santat
- *The Dandelion Seed*-- Joesph P. Anthony and Cris Arbo

**Created By: LaiLee Daling**

# Charlotte the Scientist is Squished

By: Camille Andros

Illustrated: Brianne Farley

**Synopsis:** Charlotte is a serious scientist. She solves important problems by following the scientific method. She has all the right equipment: protective glasses, a lab coat, a clipboard, and a magnifying glass. What she doesn't have is space. She has so many brothers and sisters (she *is* a rabbit, after all) that she is too squished to work on her experiments! Can she use Science to solve her problem? This funny, satisfying story is a playful introduction to the scientific method and perfect for sparking an interest in STEM subjects.

**Suggested Reading Date:** Spring – When most Science Fairs are held

## Activity Descriptions:

- Use story to introduce Science Projects
- Great time to highlight books and databases relating to Science and Experiments
- Review Scientific Methods
  1. Ask a Question
  2. Form a Hypothesis
  3. Research and Collect Data
  4. Test the Hypothesis – **Experiment!**
  5. Conclusion
- Homonyms – Introduce homonyms. Homonym “space” is used in story.

## Related Websites:

- Author’s Website: <https://www.camilleandros.com/>
- Illustrator’s Website: <http://www.briannefarley.com/>
- Book Trailer: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lqOz\\_ER6V54](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lqOz_ER6V54)
- YouTube: 10 Magic and Cool Science Experiments You Can Do at Home with Kids!  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xFYnRJ20gg8>

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

*11 Experiments that Failed* -- Jenny Offill (Science)

*The Most Magnificent Thing* -- Ashley Spires (Science)

*The Marvelous Thing That came from a Spring* -- Gilbert Ford (Science)

*Sophie Peterman Tells the Truth* -- Sarah Weeks (Family and Sibling)

**Created By: Charisse Tsukamoto**

# Giant Pants

## By: Mark Fearing

## Illustrated: Mark Fearing

**Synopsis:** They were just here yesterday! Where could they be? I looked under my bed, with my breakfast even in my tea kettle...I still can't find my pants! What is a giant supposed to do?

**Suggested Reading Date:** May 4<sup>th</sup> – No Pants Day

September – talking to kids about keeping track of their books

### Activity Descriptions:

- Design your own giant underpants – then Pin-the-Pants-on-the-Giant!
- Draw a map of Belbum's adventure – highlighting who/what he did at each location
- Have you ever lost something then found it in a weird place? Draw a comic strip or write a story about it.
- Research the cryptid creatures – giants, gnome, unicorn, cyclops, dragons, trolls, mermaids – what are their 'magical' powers? What would they possess that would help Belbum find his pants?

### Related Websites:

- Mark Fearing's Website: <https://www.markfearing.com/home/2017/7/13/giant-pants-a-giant-book>
- Candlewick activity ideas – maze, coloring by number page: [http://www.candlewick.com/book\\_files/9999999911.kit.18.pdf](http://www.candlewick.com/book_files/9999999911.kit.18.pdf)
- Mark Fearing talks about the creative process: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QcnADBInPIs>
- Mark Fearing talks about the creative career: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DAPYEMTCsuw>

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

*Unicorn, Mermaid, Fairies, Trolls, Dragons* - Beacon Focus Reading - Mythical Creatures

*The Book That Eat People* -- Jeff Perry (illustrated by Mark Fearing)

*Monsters!* – Garth Publishing series – set 1 & 2

*Dragons, Unicorn* – Behind the Legend series – Erin Peabody

*Lost and Found* -- Bill Harley

*I Lost My Bear* -- Jules Feiffer

*Bob and Joss Get Lost!* -- Peter McCleery

*The Frog Who Lost His Underpants* -- Juliette MacIver

*Monster Who Lost His Mean* -- Tiffany Haber

*T-Rex Lost His Specs* -- Jeanne Willis

*The Giant Jumper* -- Julia Donaldson

*Spiffiest Giant in Town* -- Julia Donaldson

**Created By:** Amy Cook

# **The Great Pasta Escape**

## **By: Miranda Paul**

### **Illustrator: Javier Joaquin**

**Synopsis:** When pasta discovers what it really means to be pasta, they decide to work together and use their noodles to concoct a great escape.

**Suggested Reading Date:** Anytime

#### **Activity Descriptions:**

- Pasta crafts, pasta necklaces, pasta pictures with glue and different pastas.
- Math measuring weight and length, using different pasta shapes and sizes.
- Recipes using pasta.

#### **Related Websites:**

- Author Website <https://www.mirandapaul.com>
- Illustrator Website: <http://childrensillustrators.com/jjoaquin/portfolio>
- Author's Blog which has many great ideas including reader's theater, create a pasta recipe activity and more: <http://mirandapaulbooks.blogspot.com>
- Extension activities:  
[http://mirandapaul.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/GreatPastaEscape\\_extensions.pdf](http://mirandapaul.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/GreatPastaEscape_extensions.pdf)
- Mom Read It Activities:  
<https://momreadit.wordpress.com/2017/11/27/fun-with-food-the-great-pasta-escape/>

#### **Text to Text Connections:**

- *Food Fight* -- Carol Diggory Shields
- *Strega Nona* -- Tomie dePaola

**Created By: LaiLee Daling**

# Great, Now We've Got Barbarians!

By: Jason Eaton

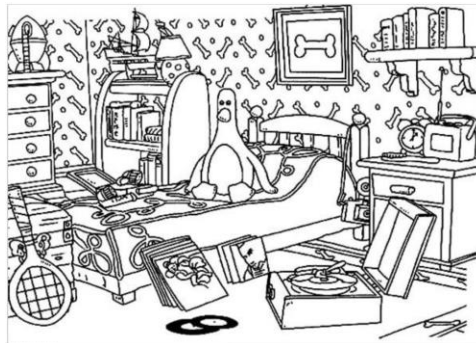
Illustrated: Mark Fearing

**Synopsis:** An untidy kid sets off a pest invasion like no other in this boisterously fun picture in this boisterously fun picture book about the perils of messy habits. Why do grown-ups make such a fuss about tidiness and cleanliness, anyway? What's the worst that could happen? A couple of ants or a little mouse passing through? No big deal, right?

**Suggested Reading Date:** September – Teaching Responsibility

## Activity Descriptions:

- Discussion on why we should keep our bedroom clean.
- Cause and Effect – What would happen if we don't clean our room? (Disorganized, pests could start appearing in room and home, etc.)
- Share poem: 'Sarah Cynthia Sylvia Stout Would Not Take the Garbage Out'  
By Shel Silverstein <http://shelsilverstein.yolasite.com/sarah-cynthia-sylvia-stout.php>  
(Poem also provided on next page.)
- Discussion about what is a "circle" story.
- Fun coloring messy room coloring page:  
<http://www.tocolor.pics/wallace-and-gromit-this-room-is-so-messy-coloring-pages/>



## Related Websites:

- Author's Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/JasonCarterEaton/>
- Author's Website via Kids Reads: <https://www.kidsreads.com/authors/jason-carter-eaton>
- Illustrator's Website: <https://www.markfearing.com/>
- Book Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q25MisCp7Rw>

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

*If You Give a Mouse a Cookie -- Laura Numeroff (any of Laura Numeroff's "circle" books)*

**Created By: Charisse Tsukamoto**

## **SARAH CYNTHIA SYLVIA STOUT WOULD NOT TAKE THE GARBAGE OUT**

**By Shel Silverstein**

Sarah Cynthia Sylvia Stout

Would not take the garbage out!  
She'd scour the pots and scrape the pans,  
Candy the yams and spice the hams,  
And though her daddy would scream and shout,  
She simply would not take the garbage out.  
And so it piled up to the ceilings:  
Coffee grounds, potato peelings,  
Brown bananas, rotten peas,  
Chunks of sour cottage cheese.  
It filled the can, it covered the floor,  
It cracked the window and blocked the door  
With bacon rinds and chicken bones,  
Drippy ends of ice cream cones,  
Prune pits, peach pits, orange peel,  
Gloppy glumps of cold oatmeal,  
Pizza crusts and withered greens,  
Soggy beans and tangerines,  
Crusts of black burned buttered toast,  
Gristly bits of beefy roasts...  
The garbage rolled on down the hall,  
It raised the roof, it broke the wall...  
Greasy napkins, cookie crumbs,  
Globs of gooey bubble gum,  
Cellophane from green baloney,  
Rubbery blubbery macaroni,  
Peanut butter, caked and dry,  
Curdled milk and crusts of pie,  
Moldy melons, dried-up mustard,  
Eggshells mixed with lemon custard,  
Cold French fries and rancid meat,  
Yellow lumps of Cream of Wheat.  
At last the garbage reached so high  
That finally it touched the sky.  
And all the neighbors moved away,  
And none of her friends would come to play.  
And finally, Sarah Cynthia Stout said,  
"OK, I'll take the garbage out!"  
But then, of course, it was too late...  
The garbage reached across the state,  
From New York to the Golden Gate.  
And there, in the garbage she did hate,  
Poor Sarah met an awful fate,  
That I cannot right now relate  
Because the hour is much too late.  
But children, remember Sarah Stout  
And always take the garbage out!



# Ice Boy

**By: David Ezra Stein**  
**Illustrated: David Ezra Stein**

**Synopsis:** Cool! That is the life of Ice Boy! Hanging out in the freezer, making plans, dreaming big! However, the dreams in the freezer, kinda cramp Ice Boy's style...isn't there more to life than hoping to be an ice compress? What if you go outside the box?

**Suggested Reading Date:** February 5<sup>th</sup> – Weatherman's Day

## Activity Descriptions:

- Create a water cycle chart of Ice Boy's adventures
- Play the Incredible Journey game (see the website below!)
- Invite a meteorologist to talk to kids about the water cycle

## Related Websites:

- Mr. Stein's website: <http://www.davidezrastein.com/>
- The making of Ice Boy: <http://www.davidezrastein.com/THE-MAKING-OF-ICE-BOY>
- Storm in a jar: <http://www.growingajeweledrose.com/2016/04/storm-in-jar-experiment.html>
- WET water cycle: <http://www.discoverwater.org/water-cycle/>
- The Incredible Journey – from the WET (Water Education for Teachers):  
[https://files.dnr.state.mn.us/education\\_safety/education/project\\_wet/sample\\_activity.pdf](https://files.dnr.state.mn.us/education_safety/education/project_wet/sample_activity.pdf)
- A 'walk-through' to see the Incredible Journey in action! <https://vimeo.com/5852533> instead of a cord, I learned with a pipe cleaner!

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

*Can't Catch Me* -- John and Ann Hassett

*Water is Water: a Book about the Water Cycle* -- Miranda Paul

*A Drop Around the World* -- Barbara McKinney

*The Drop in My Drink : The Story of Water on Our Planet* -- Meredith Hooper

*Water Dance* -- Thomas Locker

*Magic School Bus : Wet All Over* -- Patricia Relf

*Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs* -- Judi Barnett

*Magic School Bus Kicks Up a Storm* -- Nancy White

*Heather Fell in the Water* -- Doug MacLeod

*Water Boy* -- David McPhail

**Created By:** Amy Cook

# **Jabari Jumps**

## **By: Gaia Cornwall**

**Synopsis:** Working up the courage to take a big, important leap is hard, but Jabari is almost absolutely ready to make a giant splash.

**Suggested Reading Date:** Beginning of school year – talk about summer vacation.  
Don't miss the hidden cover underneath the book jacket!

### **Activity Descriptions:**

- How did you feel the first day you came to school?
- Ask students to share a time when they faced a challenge and how they were courageous.
- What do you need to be brave and face your fears or a "scary" situation?
- Create a flow chart together showing the process Jabari used to make his "big jump".

### **Related Websites:**

- Facing your challenges: <https://andrea-mack.blogspot.com/2017/07/learning-from-picture-books-jabari.html>

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

*First Day Jitters* - Julie Danneberg

*Scaredy Squirrel* – Melanie Watt

**Created By: Monica Sands**

# The Legend of Rock, Paper, Scissors

## By: Drew Daywalt

## Illustrated: Adam Rex

**Synopsis:** A laugh-out-loud funny picture book about the legend (aka, wholly invented backstory) of the classic childhood game Rock, Paper, Scissors.

**Suggested Reading Date:** Read towards the beginning of the school year as a reminder of a way to problem solve.

### Activity Descriptions:

- Publisher website: <https://www.harpercollins.com/childrens/rockpaperscissor>
- Play the game – one on one or teach students how to play as a class. <https://www.wikihow.com/Play-Rock,-Paper,-Scissors>
- Extreme Rock, Paper, Scissors - <http://www.campgames.org/game/extreme-rock-paper-scissors>
- Rock Paper Scissors- Microsoft MakeCode <https://makecode.microbit.org/projects/rps-teams>

### Related Websites:

- Official book trailer:  
<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=drew+daywalt&view=detail&mid=1206F0339CC0C806C9231206F0339CC0C806C923&FORM=VIRE>
- Meet the characters:  
<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=meet+the+characters+of+rock+paper+scissors&view=detail&mid=10307EA346FC7129FE3610307EA346FC7129FE36&FORM=VIRE>
- Read aloud:  
<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=meet+the+characters+of+rock+paper+scissors&&view=detail&mid=57AAB140C9840F49C5DD57AAB140C9840F49C5DD&rvmid=10307EA346FC7129FE3610307EA346FC7129FE36&FORM=VDRVRV>

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

*The Day the Crayons Quit -- Drew Daywalt*

**Created By: Mimi Vosper**

# Life on Mars

## By: Jon Agee

**Synopsis:** A young astronaut lands on Mars determined to find a sign of life there. In his hand is a package, tied with a red ribbon that holds a chocolate cupcake, a gift to any extraterrestrial he might run into. The dark, cold, and rocky landscape has no life, or so he thinks, as he heads back to the spaceship, he discovers the sign he is looking for: a bright yellow flower. But what is he missing?

**Suggested Reading Date:** Anytime

### Activity Descriptions:

- Science Corner have facts about Mars on cards for kids to view and learn about Mars.
- Have pictures of all planets and have students put them in order.
- Planet creation, have students create a new planet, what would it look like, what would you call it?
- Mars critters, with pompoms and pipe cleaners have students create a Mars critter.

### Related Websites:

- Read Aloud Audio: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mTC5Vcz1qQ>
- Author Website: [http://www.jonagee.com/html/p\\_books.php?nav=0&sub=0](http://www.jonagee.com/html/p_books.php?nav=0&sub=0)
- Space Themed Activities and Printables: <http://applenanabox.com/index.php/2017/06/20/15-space-themed-activities-free-printables/>

### Text to Text Connections:

- *Curiosity: The story of a Mars Rover* -- Markus Motum
- *The Day Mars Disappeared* -- Elijah Kravets

**Created By: LaiLee Daling**

# Lost and Found Cat

By: Doug Kuntz and Amy Shrodes  
Illustrated: Sue Cornelison

**Synopsis:** The true story about one cat's journey to be reunited with his war-torn Iraqi family.

**Suggested Reading Date:** April – Pet Month

## Activity Descriptions:

- Introduce Iraq on Map or Culturegrams  
<https://www.worldatlas.com/webimage/countrys/asia/outline/iqout.htm>



- Vocabulary Discussion: **Refugee** – Person(s) who has been forced to leave their country in order to escape war persecution or natural disaster.
- Checking for Understanding - Have students retell the story's sequence of events.
- Discussions: Advantage of Social Media and how tool was used to raise monies and help reunite family with pet.

## Related Websites:

- YouTube: Interview with Coauthor: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wKh2aBmEi60>
- YouTube: Miracle Lost Cat Reunites with Owner: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q8ai\\_eAWrUM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q8ai_eAWrUM)
- Author's webpage: <https://www.lostandfoundcat.com/>

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

*Little Lost Dog* -- Monica Carnesi

*Lost Cat* -- Roger Mader

*Nubs* -- Brian Dennis

**Created By:** Charisse Tsukamoto

# **My Awesome Summer by P.Mantis**

## **By: Paul Meisel**

### **Illustrated: Paul Meisel**

**Synopsis:** Told in dated entries, P. Mantis describes the entirety of her life, sharing the fun and beauty of her world as well its little ups and downs.

**Suggested Reading Date:** October 17 is the last entry date in the book!

#### **Activity Descriptions:**

- Share the life cycle of other insects through books and videos (compare/contrast).
- Create a journal for another insect (or animal).
- Have students find fun facts about insects and create a 3 truths and 1 lie.
- Find the main idea for each daily entry.

#### **Related Websites:**

- National Geographic (includes video/images):  
<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/animals/invertebrates/p/praying-mantis/>
- Keeping Insects (as pets). Includes care, types of mantis, and more!:  
<https://www.keepinginsects.com/praying-mantis/>
- National Geographic Kids: <https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/animals/praying-mantis/#praying-mantis-eyes.jpg>
- Sciencing for Kids: <https://sciencing.com/praying-mantis-kids-8638156.html>
- Life cycles of bugs (Museum Victoria – Australia):  
<https://museums victoria.com.au/bugs/life/cycles.aspx>
- San Diego Zoo (many insect links her at bottom of page):  
<http://animals.sandiegozoo.org/animals/arthropods>
- Author Website: <http://www.paulmeisel.com/>
- Storymakers Interview w/ Paul Meisel (9:57) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ii5WahN1Eaw>  
<illustrations start @ 7:00>

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

*Diary of a Spider*-- Doreen Cronin

*Diary of a Worm* -- Doreen Cronin

*Forest Explorer* --Nic Bishop

*Bugs! Bugs! Bugs!* (Eyewitness Reader) -- Jennifer Dussling

*20 Fun Facts About Praying Mantises* -- Adrienne Houk Maley

*Mantis* (Extreme Insect Series) -- S.L. Hamilton

**Created By: Dave Sonnen**

# One Proud Penny

## By: Randy Siegel

### Illustrated: Serge Bloch

**Synopsis:** Who knew the life of a penny could be so exciting? Born in 1983, our copper (well, zinc and copper as we find out) narrator travels everywhere from New York City to Portland, Oregon, to Puerto Rico describing in colorful detail his many adventures along the way.

**Suggested Reading Date:** Tues., February 12 (Lost Penny Day, see link below)

#### Activity Descriptions:

- Do a penny rubbing w/ pencil. Add legs, arms, face, etc. Write a story about where this penny has been.
- Using a die cut circle (brown/bronze paper) create a penny character. Add legs, feet, arms, hands, face.
- Debate: should we have pennies? (see links below)
- Research other coins. What is their value? Who/what is on the head and tail. How long have they existed? What about coins in other countries?
- Point out / share the "end matter," a common feature on non-fiction books.

#### Related Websites:

- Lost Penny Day (Feb. 12): <https://www.daysoftheyear.com/days/lost-penny-day/>
- Kindergarten Penny Lesson Video (10:14): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pFD01LbrueY>
- Penny Music Video (1:12): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0h946YYIH1M>
- Penny Power Lesson ideas from Education World (good for 3<sup>rd</sup> graders): [http://www.educationworld.com/a\\_lesson/dailylp/dailylp/dailylp119.shtml](http://www.educationworld.com/a_lesson/dailylp/dailylp/dailylp119.shtml)
- Pro/Con about pennies (not simple enough for K-3, but would give you ideas for the debate, includes a video): <https://www.moneycrashers.com/get-rid-penny-reasons/>
- US Mint Resources: <https://www.usmint.gov/learn/educators>
- Author Website: <http://randolphsiegel.com/>
- Illustrator Website: <http://www.sergebloch.com>

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

*My Awesome Summer -- P. Mantis* by Paul Meisel.

*Diary of a Fly* -- Doreen Cronin

*Diary of a Worm* -- Doreen Cronin

*Follow the Money* -- Loreen Leedy

*26 letters and 99 cents* -- Tana Hoban

**Created By: Dave Sonnen**

# **Poor Louie**

## **By: Tony Fucile**

### **Illustrated: Tony Fucile**

**Synopsis:** Louie has the life every Chihuahua dreams of, but when the pending arrival of a new baby upsets the balance of the family, Louie starts to wonder if there's still room for him.

**Suggested Reading Date:** any time

**Activity Descriptions:** the webpage.

- Prediction – have students predict why Louie is running away from the pages prior to the Title Page, have them predict what gender the baby will be (will they use the pictures to predict twins?)
- Make a game of match for gestation period for different animals (list of gestation times and animal to make it easier is attached.) Baby shower ideas often use this idea for their printable games. You could use Kahoots or other game/quiz generating program.
- Have students write or talk about having a new sibling. How did they feel? If they are an only child or youngest what do they think they would feel.

**Related Websites:**

- Online game generator: <https://kahoot.com/>
- Example of free animal gestation game printable: <http://www.plan-the-perfect-baby-shower.com/animal-baby-shower-game.html>

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

*That New Animal* -- Emily Jenkins

*The Other Dog* -- Madeleine L'Engle

*His Royal Highness King Baby: a Terrible True Story* -- Sally Lloyd-Jones

*Bubba and Beau Best Friends* -- Kathi Appelt

**Created By: Kim Guyette**



# Rules of the House

## By: Mac Barnett

## Illustrated: Matt Myers

**Synopsis:** Ian always follows the rules and his sister, Jenny, never does, but when she angers some monsters while breaking all the rules of their vacation house in the woods, Ian first runs away, then realizes there should be a rule about protecting your sister from being eaten by monsters.

**Suggested Reading Date:** First week of school (to introduce rules)  
Week of April 10...National Siblings Day  
Last week of October...Halloween

### Activity Descriptions:

- Students will type/write up a list of 3-5 rules that are important to follow in their own homes and/or classrooms. Paste these to a piece of red construction paper that has been decorated like a door. (Activity best suited for students in grades 2-3)
- Collaborate with classroom teachers in using the red door format for establishing rules/expectations for the beginning of the year.
- Promote a classroom door-decorating contest with a "Rules of the House" theme.

### Related Websites:

- Author Website: <https://www.macbarnett.com/>
- Illustrator Website: <http://www.myerspains.com/>
- TED talk by Mac Barnett: [https://www.ted.com/talks/mac\\_barnett\\_why\\_a\\_good\\_book\\_is\\_a\\_secret\\_door](https://www.ted.com/talks/mac_barnett_why_a_good_book_is_a_secret_door) (not for kids, but gives you a great look into Mac's philosophy of writing fiction for kids).
- Book trailer: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7XXI\\_unTsg8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7XXI_unTsg8)

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

*In a Dark, Dark Room, and Other Scary Stories* -- Alvin Schwartz

*An Eyeball in My Garden: and other spine-tingling poems* (selected and edited by Jennifer Cole Judd and Laura Wynkoop)

*School Rules!* -- Bonnie Bader

*Pinkalicious: School Rules!* -- Victoria Kann

*The Pain and the Great One* -- Judy Blume (sibling relationships)

*The Younger Brother's Survival Guide: -- Matt* by Lisa Kopelke

*And to Think That We'd Never Be Friends* -- Mary Ann Hoberman

**Created By: Barb Hagerty**

**Sergeant Reckless:**  
**The True Story of a Little Horse Who Became a Hero**  
**By: Patricia McCormick**  
**Illustrated: Iacopo Bruno**

**Synopsis:** Relates the true story of a brave little mare who carried artillery shells into battle numerous times with the U.S. Marines she supported throughout the Korean War.

**Suggested Reading Date:** Read in honor of Veteran's Day, November 11.

**Activity Descriptions:**

- Animal War Heroes: <https://www.wearethemighty.com/articles/7-greatest-animal-war-heroes>
- Read End Notes for additional information about Korean War.
- Educator's Guide: <https://b0f646cfbd7462424f7a-f9758a43fb7c33cc8adda0fd36101899.ssl.cf2.rackcdn.com/teaching-guides/TG-9780062292599.pdf>

**Related Websites:**

- Marine Corps Website: <https://www.mca-marines.org/leatherneck/sgt-reckless-combat-veteran>
- Marine Corps Video: <http://www.pendleton.marines.mil/Videos/videoid/516899/>
- Marine Corps Museum: <https://thehorse.com/116433/staff-sgt-reckless-honored-at-marine-corps-museum/>

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

*Finding Winnie: The True Story of the World's Most Famous Bear – Lindsay Mattick*

*Nubs: The True Story of a Mutt, a Marine and a Miracle – Brian Dennis*

*Rags: Hero Dog of WWI: A True Story – Margot Raven*

**Created By: Mimi Vosper**

# Shawn Loves Sharks

## By: Curtis Manley

## Illustrated: Tracy Subisak

**Synopsis:** "Shawn loves sharks with all his heart, so when his nemesis, Stacy, is assigned 'sharks' for the big class project, Shawn is not happy"--Provided by publisher.

**Suggested Reading Date:** Shark Awareness Day – July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018, beginning of the year friendship stories, World Wildlife Day – March 3<sup>rd</sup>

### Activity Descriptions:

- Create fact pages or a class book on different sharks
- Do a T- chart or Venn comparison of a Great White Shark and Leopard Seal
- Introduce databases such as PebbleGo or an online encyclopedia for shark facts
- Go on a "virtual fieldtrip" to the website of an aquarium or zoo
- Examine the pictures to "read" the feelings of the characters - empathy
- Create a list of advice on how to play fairly – exploring the "Golden Rule"
- Make shark or seal bookmarks
- Have a discussion about student passions and engagement in learning
- Exploring food chains
- Discussion on exploring new topics and things – challenge your students to find out something new or read a different genre than usual.
- Discuss imagination and imaginative play

### Related Websites:

- Author Curtis Manley's website: <http://curtismanley.com>
- Illustrator Tracy Subisak's website: <http://tracysubisak.com>
- Maria Marshall's blog post with ideas on sharing *Shawn Loves Sharks*:  
<https://www.mariamarshall.com/single-post/2017/05/19/Shawn-Loves-Sharks---perfect-Picture-Book-Friday---PPBF>
- Deborah Kalb blog interview with Curtis Manley: <http://deborahkalbbooks.blogspot.com/2017/03/q-with-curtis-manley.html>
- National Geographic Kids article on Great White Sharks. Has a link to a shark personality quiz:  
<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/animals/great-white-shark/#great-white-shark-swimming-blue.jpg>
- Link page to many shark activities and printable sheets <http://www.kidzone.ws/sharks/activities/>
- Slightly grisly but very informational National Geographic video on Great White sharks hunting seals:  
<https://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/worlds-deadliest-ngs/deadliest-shark-seals>

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

*Turtles Penguin Day, Clark the Shark, Carnivores, Nugget and Fang, Lion Vs. Rabbit, The Bear Report*

**Created By: Paula Wittmann**

**Wanted: Ralfy Rabbit, Book Burglar**  
**By: Emily MacKenzie**  
**Illustrated: Emily MacKenzie**

**Synopsis:** Some rabbits dream about lettuces and carrots, others dream of flowering meadows and juicy dandelions, but Ralfy dreams only of books. In fact, he doesn't just dream about them, he wants to read them all the time. Soon his obsession sends him spiraling into a life of crime!

**Suggested Reading Date:** Beginning of the year for library expectations – returning books, checking out/not stealing. But can be read anytime.

**Activity Descriptions:**

- Make a bookmark of your favorite books (give them a 1-3 carrot review) along with a list of want to read titles – template available on webpage
- Because the author's reading on YouTube is so cute with her Scottish accent, I would play her reading of the title.
- See the book burglar trap building website below, design an activity or take-home challenge for students, and display in library their ideas.
- Create a Wanted poster for Ralfy and use character description to fill in – templates available free online, one is linked below.

**Related Websites:**

- Author Website: <http://www.emilymackenzie.co.uk/>
- Author reads the book in her cute Scottish accent. 8.25 min. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mj20MAmb1c4>
- Book trailer 59 sec <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3RInSEfuDwk>
- Building book burglar traps –STEM activity <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EoUvAxf7Kp8>
- Free Wanted poster template <https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Wanted-Poster-template-149098>

**Text to Text Connections:** If you like this book, you might also want to use:  
*Snatch-A-Book -- Helen Docherty*

**Created By: Kim Guyette**

# 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 5<sup>th</sup> – National Bird Day, March 25<sup>th</sup> – 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://jcescgifted.weebly.com/uploads/7/9/0/2/7902434/creative\\_thinking\\_lesson\\_final.pdf](https://jcescgifted.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**

# You DON'T Want a Unicorn!

By: Ame Dykeman

Illustrated: Liz Climo

**Synopsis:** Of Course you WANT a Unicorn! Why wouldn't you want one? Okay, so they shed. And they can't be housebroken. And you can't just have one...uh Well, I guess maybe a unicorn might not be the best pet...However...I could trade it for. . .

**Suggested Reading Date:** February or April 9<sup>th</sup> – Unicorn Day

## Activity Descriptions:

- Identify the pros and cons of pets, animals, cryptids
- Create a rainbow with jelly beans
- Unicorn crafts
- Investigate colors – create a rainbow, primary colors and secondary colors
- Difference between WANTS and NEEDS
- What happens if you do get the dragon?

## Related Websites:

- Ame Dykeman: <http://www.amedyckman.com/>
- Liz Climo: <https://thelittleworldofliz.com/Books-Landing>
- Free downloadable unicorn crafts! (I like to pop-up unicorn card!): <https://www.redtedart.com/easy-unicorn-crafts/>
- Footprint unicorn: <http://www.twindragonflydesigns.com/20-hand-and-footprint-crafts/>
- Heart unicorn: <https://www.gluedtomycraftsblog.com/2017/01/craft-foam-heart-unicorn-kid-craft.html>
- Jellybean color experiment: <https://www.craftymorning.com/jelly-bean-color-experiment/>
- Read-alouds: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c0127QK-2dq> , <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m6AoocehBY>

## Text to Text Connections:

*If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* -- Laura Numeroff

*Unicorn Thinks He's So Great* -- Bob Shea

*I am a Unicorn!* -- Michaela Schuett

*Thelma the Unicorn* -- Aaron Blabey

*Uni the Unicorn* -- Amy Krause Rosenthal

*A Unicorn Named Sparkle* -- Amy Young

*Children Make Terrible Pets* -- Peter Brown

*Not Norman: A Goldfish Story* -- Kelly Bennett

*Oh, Theodore!: Guinea Pig Poems* -- Susan Katz

*Pirate's Perfect Pet* -- Beth Ferry

*Hoodwinked* -- Arthur Howard

*Can I Keep Him?* -- Steven Kellogg

*I Wanna Iguana* -- Karen Kaufman Orloff

*The Perfect Pet* -- Margie Palatini

*Bad Kitty* -- Nick Bruel

*Gilbert Goldfish Wants a Pet* -- Kelly DiPucchio

**Created By:** Amy Cook