

# WASHINGTON CHILDREN'S CHOICE PICTURE BOOK AWARD

## 2017 ACTIVITY PACKET



# **The Bear Report**

## **By: Thyra Header**

### **Illustrated: Thyra Header**

**Synopsis:** Sophie is uninterested in writing a research report on polar bears until a polar bear named Olafur swoops her away to the Arctic, where she learns all about the playful bear's habits and habitat, from glacier mice to Northern Lights.

**Suggested Reading Date:** Anytime

#### **Activity Descriptions:**

- Create an anchor chart using a polar bear diagram.
- Arctic animal research project.
- Have student trace their hand on white paper and create a bear form to cutout and paste on an Arctic scene they create on black paper with white chalk.

#### **Related Websites: All Websites are on the WCCPBA Wiki**

- Preview of the book - <https://books.google.com/books>
- Author's website - <http://www.thyraheder.com>
- Anchor Chart - <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/211317407491888781/>
- Research Handout Freebie - <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/258605203575528886/>
- Blog - <http://www.swimmingintosecond.com/2012/01/cause-and-effect-polar-bears-and.html?showComment=1327191476020#c7958803850397232342>

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

- *Polar Bears* by Mark Newman
- *Where do Polar Bears Live?* by Sarah L. Thomson
- *Little Polar Bear* by Hans de Beer

**Created By: LaiLee Daling**

# **Elizabeth, Queen of the Seas**

## **By: Lynne Cox**

### **Illustrated: Brian Floca**

**Synopsis:** Elizabeth, an elephant seal, chooses to live along the banks of the Avon River in Christchurch, New Zealand. But when she wanders onto the road to sun herself and almost gets hit by cars, she is towed out to sea to other seal colonies. Yet Elizabeth always finds her way back to Christchurch, and to her friend, Michael. (Based on a true story)

**Suggested Reading Date:** anytime of the year

#### **Activity Descriptions:**

- Geography: Using a world map, show students where New Zealand and Christchurch are located.
- Draw a life-size (or large poster-size) outline of an elephant seal to display for the students. Add facts about elephant seals included from the book to the life-size poster. (Students could work in pairs and write the facts on post-it notes)
- For further research, have students write questions they have about elephant seals. These can also be placed on the seal poster. Provide a list of resources (both text and online) for students to find the answers to these questions.

#### **Related Websites: All Websites are on the WCCPBA Wiki**

- Information about elephant seals <http://animals.nationalgeographic.com/animals/mammals/elephant-seal/> (includes a sound bite)
- World Book Online Student edition: another sound file for elephant seals
- New Zealand newspaper article about the book: <http://www.stuff.co.nz/national/65069649/Elizabeth-the-elephant-seal-stars-in-book> (includes a 5-picture slide show)
- Author's web site: [www.lynnecox.com](http://www.lynnecox.com)
- Vimeo video of Lynne Cox's various record-breaking long-distance swims: <http://www.lynnecox.com/about/>

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

- *Southern Elephant Seal: the biggest seal in the world* by Meish Goldish
- *The Elephant Seal* by William R. Sanford
- *Elephant Seals* by Megan Peterson
- *I Am a Seal: The Life of an Elephant Seal* by Darlene R. Stille

**Created By: Barb Hagerty**

# **Finding Winnie: The Trued Story of the World's Most Famous Bear**

## **By: Lindsay Mattick**

### **Illustrated: Sophie Blackall**

**Synopsis:** A fictionalized account of Captain Harry Coleburn's relationship with a bear cub in 1914, which he rescued while on his way to care for soldiers' horses during World War I and became the inspiration for A.A. Milne's Winnie-the-Pooh.

**Suggested Reading Date:** Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> is National Winnie the Pooh Day or Feb 10 through V-Day to Feb 17 Random acts of Kindness Day.

#### **Activity Descriptions:**

- Using the family tree example at the back of the book have students make their family tree back to grandparents (templates abound on the internet as well, here's an example [http://www.familytreetemplates.net/preview/Blank\\_Family\\_Tree](http://www.familytreetemplates.net/preview/Blank_Family_Tree) Talk about family relationships and names for grandparents (Grammy, Nana, Poppop etc.). Students could survey the class and then graph it on <http://nces.ed.gov/nceskids/createAgraph/>
- Focus on the theme of the "impact of one small, loving gesture can make" have students do random acts of kindness, or pay it forward type activities. Record the event with writing acts on hearts and taping to a branch, a window, a bulletin board.
- With older kids do a lesson on PRIMARY SOURCES like the ones found in the album at the end of the book that help historians prove that events happened and how people lived. Share your weekend using primary sources with ticket stubs, time/dated receipts from shopping, photos, and journal entries etc. that prove what you did and could show future historians what life was like in 2016.
- This is a Caldecott winner (2016) review the award pull other winners from your collection.
- 5. Most importantly bring out your Pooh books, A.A. Milne books, and share the online links to the New York Public Library that houses the real stuffed animals, along with the publisher's introduction to the book video, see below.

#### **Related Websites: All Websites are on the WCCPBA Wiki**

- <http://www.just-pooh.com/history.html> History of Winnie the Pooh
- <http://www.nypl.org/about/locations/schwarzman/childrens-center-42nd-street/pooh> NY Public Library page (original Pooh and friends stuffies live here)
- <http://www.nypl.org/events/exhibition/2009/05/31/winnie-pooh-and-friends-original-toys> More from the NYPL includes and video and audio of Jim Dale reading from Return to Hundred Acre Wood.
- <http://www.nationaldaycalendar.com/national-random-acts-of-kindness-day-february-17/>
- <http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/caldecottmedal/caldecottmedal> Homepage for the award.

**Text to Text Connections:** Share real Animal Biographies/fictional biographies from WCCPBA: *Nubs* by Brian Dennis, *Togo* by Robert Blake, *Ham the Astrochimp* by Richard Hilliard, *Two Bobbies* by Kirby Larsen, *Little Dog Lost* by Monica Carnesi, *Wonder Horse* by Emily McCully, *Ivan: The Remarkable True Story of the Shopping Mall Gorilla* by Katherine Applegate.

**Created By: Kim Guyette**

# **Grandma in Blue with Red Hat**

## **By: Scott Menchin**

### **Illustrated: Harry Bliss**

**Synopsis:** When a young boy learns about what makes art special, he discovers his grandmother is the perfect inspiration to create his own masterpieces. (Adapted from book jacket)

**Suggested Reading Date:** September is Grandparent's Month, Sunday, Sept, 11 is National Grandparent's Day. Could also be used anytime in conjunction with a school/district Arts Fair.

#### **Activity Descriptions:**

- Take student pictures (faces)- cut them apart in squares/other shapes and re-glue in Pablo Picasso Style.
- Create your own art Gallery. Create art pieces that are beautiful, different, funny, tell a story, comes from other cultures, makes you feel good, OR are one of a kind (description from the text). Display the works and have other classes take a tour of the exhibit. Students can serve as docents pointing out unique features.
- Research various artists, create short reports on why the artist is famous.
- Take a virtual (or real) tour of a local art museum (listed in related websites). Note the various types of art and different mediums used.

#### **Related Websites: All Websites are on the WCCPBA Wiki**

- Seattle Art Museum: <http://www.seattleartmuseum.org/>
- Frye Art Museum (Seattle): <http://fryemuseum.org/>
- Tacoma Art Museum: <http://www.tacomaartmuseum.org/>
- Portland (OR) Art Museum: <http://portlandartmuseum.org/>
- Northwest Museum of Art and Culture (Spokane): <http://www.northwestmuseum.org/>
- Whatcom Museum (Bellingham): <https://whatcommuseum.org>
- National Gallery of Art – Kids Page <http://www.nga.gov/content/ngaweb/education/kids.html>  
(some online activities, might need Flash to work)

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

*Bridget's Beret* by Tom Lichtenheld

*Camille and the Sunflowers* : a story about Vincent van Gogh by Laurence Anholt.

*The Art Lesson* by Tommie dePaola

**Created By: Dave Sonnen**

# **Hippos are HUGE!**

**By: Jonathan London**  
**Illustrated: Matthew Trueman**

**Synopsis:** Follow these hefty hulks as they glide underwater, play tug-of-war, swat balls of dung at one another, and nuzzle their young in the mud.

**Suggested Reading Date:** National Hippo Day – February 15, 2017

## **Activity Descriptions:**

- Before you read this book, make a K-W-L chart. After reading, fill in the chart. Use the index to locate facts. Websites provided below contain additional hippo information.
- Write an acrostic poem.
- Use this story to launch animal nonfiction report writing.
- Emphasize the use of two types of fonts that are used during the story.
- Use a Hippo's head as the template to make a fact book

## **Related Websites: All Websites are on the WCCPBA Wiki**

- [Google Books](#)
- Jonathan London - [Author's Website](#)
- [15 Second Story Time You Tube](#)
- [San Diego Zoo website - http://animals.sandiegozoo.org/animals/hippo](#)
- Hippo facts - [http://www.softschools.com/facts/animals/hippopotamus\\_facts/19/](http://www.softschools.com/facts/animals/hippopotamus_facts/19/)  
<http://www.animalfactguide.com/animalfacts/hippopotamus/>  
<http://www.dkfindout.com/us/animals-and-nature/hippopotamuses/>

**Text to Text Connections:** *Just Ducks* by Nicola Davies

**Created By: Mimi Vosper**

# Hoot Owl, Master of Disguise

**By: Sean Taylor**  
**Illustrated: Jean Jullien**

**Synopsis:** Hoot Owl flies through the night and assumes numerous disguises in order to catch a meal.

**Suggested Reading Date:** Halloween

## **Activity Descriptions:**

- Take a photo of each student – have them make their own disguise
- Draw hoot owls in disguise
- As you read aloud, encourage students to repeat the refrain
- Discuss how animals use camouflage, also nocturnal animals
- Talk about different approaches to solving a problem

## **Related Websites: All Websites are on the WCCPBA Wiki**

- [Google Books](#)
- Sean Taylor - [Author's Website](#)
- [Official Book Trailer from Candlewick Press](#)
- Sean Taylor - reading Hoot Owl on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L6oBjJ7uSBo>
- Activity Kit from Candlewick Press - [http://www.candlewick.com/book\\_files/0763675784.kit.1.pdf](http://www.candlewick.com/book_files/0763675784.kit.1.pdf)
- Walker Books Classroom Ideas - <http://classroom.walkerbooks.com.au/home/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Hoot-Owl-Master-of-Disguise-Classroom-Ideas1.pdf>

**Text to Text Connections:** *Carnivores* by Aaron Reynolds

**Created By:** Mimi Vosper

# **I Don't Want to be a Frog**

## **By: Dev Petty**

### **Illustrated: Mike Boldt**

**Synopsis:** I don't want to be a frog! It's too wet, slimy and don't get me started on all the bugs frogs eat! Well, this little frog is in for a big surprise in all the benefits of Frog-dom! Go Frogs!

**Suggested Reading Date:** Frog Jumping Day – May 13<sup>th</sup>

#### **Activity Descriptions:**

- Play leapfrog around the playground! Which team can go the fastest?
- Did you know that a group of frogs is called an army? Find out about other groups.
- Pick a different animal. Create a conversation between a young creature and his/her parent complaining about why they wouldn't want to be that and their parent's response about why it is great to be who they are.
- Create a jumping frog using origami!

#### **Related Websites: All Websites are on the WCCPBA Wiki**

- Animal group names - [www.thealmightyguru.com/Pointless/AnimalGroups.html](http://www.thealmightyguru.com/Pointless/AnimalGroups.html)
- Random House Activities - [www.randomhouse.com/teachers/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/IDontWantFrog\\_Kit\\_Brochure\\_WEB.pdf](http://www.randomhouse.com/teachers/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/IDontWantFrog_Kit_Brochure_WEB.pdf)
- Jumping Frog origami - [web-japan.org/kidsweb/virtual/origami2/exploring01\\_06.html](http://web-japan.org/kidsweb/virtual/origami2/exploring01_06.html)
- Trailer - [mrschureads.blogspot.com/2015/01/book-trailer-premiere-i-dont-want-to-be.html](http://mrschureads.blogspot.com/2015/01/book-trailer-premiere-i-dont-want-to-be.html)
- Mike Boldt webpage - [mikeboldt.ca](http://mikeboldt.ca)
- Dev Petty webpage – [devpetty.com](http://devpetty.com) (wasn't able to get on when I check the site...but everything leads to it...hopefully it was just down when I checked it!)

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

- *I Fly : The Buzz about Flies and How Awesome They Are* by Briget Heos
- *All about Frogs* by Jim Arnosky
- *Diary of a Fly* by Doreen Cronin
- *Finklehopper Frog* by Irene Livingston
- *Frog in the Bog* by Karma Wilson
- *Froggy Eats Out* by Jonathan London
- *Hop Jump* by Ellen Stone Walsh
- *Jump Frog, Jump* by Robert Kalan
- *Kermit's Garden of Verse* by Jack Prelusky
- *Life Cycle of a Frog* by Colleen Sexton
- *My Father the Dog* by Elizabeth Blumle
- *Wide-Mouth Frog, The Pop-up Book* by Keith Faulkner

**Created By: Amy Cook**



# **I, Fly: The Buzz About Flies and How Awesome They Are**

## **By: Bridget Heos**

### **Illustrated: Jennifer Plecas**

**Synopsis:** "Fly is fed up with everyone studying butterflies. After all, flies go through metamorphosis too--and they are so much cooler! They flap their wings 200 times a second, compared to a butterfly's measly five to twelve times. Their babies--maggots--are much cuter than caterpillars. And when they eat solid food, they even throw up on it to turn it into a liquid... provides a new perspective on his species."--Provided by publisher.

**Suggested Reading Date:** Anytime, Insect units, Lifecycle Units

#### **Activity Descriptions:**

- Tie to life cycle unit – there are links to a fly lifecycle movie and lifecycle worksheet below
- Tie to persuasive writing or debate. What does Fly do to try to persuade the class to study flies instead of butterflies
- Use Fly drawing instructions on Bridget Heos' website to have kids create Fly bookmarks
- Research flies using other books or on-line resources. Databases including Pebble Go, World Book for Kids, and Sirs Discover all have articles available.

#### **Related Websites: All Websites are on the WCCPBA Wiki**

- Bridget Heos website <http://www.authorbridgetheos.com/i-fly.php> includes links to fly drawing instructions and coloring sheets
- Jennifer Plecas website <http://www.jenniferplecas.com>
- "Flies for Kids" – video on fly lifecycle <https://youtu.be/RJ9VvCS13sA>
- "10 Ready-to-Go Resources for Teaching Lifecycles" <http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/2014/04/10-ready-go-resources-teaching-life-cycles>

**Text to Text Connections:** If you like this book, you might also want to use: *Diary of a Fly* by Doreen Cronin, *Fly Guy Series* by Ted Arnold, *Memoirs of a Hamster* by Devin Scillian

**Created By: Paula Wittmann**

# **If You Ever Want to Bring an Alligator to School, Don't!**

## **By: Elise Parsley**

### **Illustrated: Elise Parsley**

**Synopsis:** Written in 2<sup>nd</sup> person, Magnolia informs the reader why it is NOT a good idea to take an alligator to school for show and tell...she speaks from experience!

**Suggested Reading Date:** Anytime or read this book when a classroom will be having show-and-tell activities.

#### **Activity Descriptions:**

- Have students respond to the writing prompt "If you ever want to bring an \_\_\_\_\_ to school, don't because \_\_\_\_\_." The top half of the paper could be for the student's illustration. Older students could list three reasons why not to bring a certain animal/creature to show and tell.
- Read a non-fiction expository about alligators along with this fiction book. With younger students the teacher can fill in a T-chart (compare/contrast) as a whole group activity. Older students can work in pairs to complete the T-chart after reading both books.
- If possible, invite an animal expert (i.e. State Fish and Wildlife person) to explain the laws in Washington State about having exotic animals as pets. For summary of laws go to: [http://www.bornfreeusa.org/b4a2\\_exotic\\_animals\\_summary.php](http://www.bornfreeusa.org/b4a2_exotic_animals_summary.php)

#### **Related Websites: All Websites are on the WCCPBA Wiki**

- Author's website: <http://www.eliseparsley.com/>
- YouTube video from 2015 National Book Festival: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cWtPS77UKH0>
- YouTube book trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jZ3ZS4G3ajU>

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

- *The King of Show-and-Tell* by Klein, Abby.
- *The Show-and-Tell Show-Off* by West, Tracey.
- *Clifford the Big Red Dog: Show-and-Tell Surprise* by Margulies, Teddy Slater
- *Alligators = Caimanes* by Twine, Alice.
- *Baby Alligator* by Clarke, Ginjer L.

**Created By: Barb Hagerty**

# **I'm New Here**

**By: Anne Sibley O'Brien**  
**Illustrated: Anne Sibley O'Brien**

**Synopsis:** Meet three young immigrant students as they try to adjust and acclimate to a whole new world of language and customs in an elementary school setting.

**Suggested Reading Date:** Beginning of the school year or anytime.

## **Activity Descriptions:**

- Use World Book Online Kids edition to do a compare/contrast between the countries of Guatemala, Korea and Somalia.
- If you have access to Culture Grams, look up information on the three countries represented in this book: Somalia, Korea and Guatemala. The slideshows are very informative.
- Have students color the flags of each country represented in the book and/or locate the countries on a world map.
- Teach students how to greet one another in a variety of languages. If you have immigrant students at your school be sure to include their native language greetings. You may even want to videotape these students as they show how to greet others in their native language. (Be mindful of some cultures' resistance to being photographed/videotaped)
- Hang a world map in a prominent place in your library/school. Use student photos and yarn/string to show their countries of origin.
- Have students brainstorm ideas on how to make newcomers feel welcome at their school. Students will then act out/role play these situations.

## **Related Websites: All Websites are on the WCCPBA Wiki**

- Author interview about the book. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u5C8upd7qgo>
- "I'm New Here" Welcoming Immigrant Students video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sziomv9rp5k>
- [www.imyournighborbooks.org](http://www.imyournighborbooks.org) Website featuring children's and teens books from around the world

## **Text to Text Connections:**

- *My Name is Yoon* by Helen Recorvits
- *Joseph's Big Ride* by Terry Farish
- *I Hate English!* by Ellen Levine
- *Dear Whiskers* by Ann Whitehead Nagda
- *My Diary from Here to There* by Amada Irma Pérez
- *My Name is Sangoel* by Karen Lynn Williams and Khadra Mohammed
- *The American Wei* by Marion Hess Pomeranc
- *Como en Mi Tierra/Just Like Home* by Elizabeth I. Miller
- *A Very Important Day* by Maggie Rugg Herold
- *From North to South* by René Colato Laínez

**Created By: Barb Hagerty**

# **I'm Trying to LOVE Spiders**

## **By: Bethany Barton**

## **Illustrated: Bethany Barton**

**Synopsis:** "This fresh and very funny non-fiction picture book shares lots of fascinating facts about spiders in an entirely captivating way. If it doesn't cure your spider phobia, it'll at least make you appreciate how amazing they are...and laugh a lot as you learn about them."

**Suggested Reading Date:** National Save a Spider Day – March 14 or Oct for nontraditional Halloween book

### **Activity Descriptions**

- Make blown ink splats like the squished spiders in the book and then look up information (ie.PebbleGO) on the species listed on the endpapers and write about spider facts (use the attached template). Get your Art teacher to do the art/ink part and you could just do the research when they are dried.
- Read both *ITTLove Spiders* and *I, Fly* by Bridget Heos (and even throw in *I Don't Like Snakes* by Nicola Davis and do a Venn diagram or have kids write a number down on a piece of paper how they feel about the topic before they hear the book then again after...did it change? Pull all your creepy crawly books out for them to check out.

**Related Websites:** All Websites are on the WCCPBA Wiki

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WMGPdhlwkNE> A You Tube read aloud of the book by Wiggle Worm
- <http://www.bethanybarton.com/> Author's website

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

*I, Fly* by Bridget Heos (WCCPBA 2017)

*I Don't Like Snakes* by Nicola Davis

Aaaarrgghh! Spider by Lydia Monks

*An Interview with Harry the Tarantula* by Leigh Ann Tyson

**Created By: Kim Guyette**

# Job Wanted

## By: Teresa Bateman

## Illustrated: Chris Sheban

**Synopsis:** Dog wanted a job, but the farmer didn't think he needed a dog. (Everybody needs a dog!) Dog was disappointed but not discouraged. Over the next three days dog auditioned as a cow, a horse, even a chicken! Did he get the job?

**Suggested Reading Date:** end of the year, if you do a farm unit, December 2<sup>nd</sup> - National Mutt Day, February 20<sup>th</sup> – Love Your Pet Day

### Activity Descriptions:

- Compare with *Ragweed's Farm Dog Handbook* by Anne Vittur Kennedy
- List all the animals that are on a farm – of course dogs! Roosters, pigs, hens, cows, sheep, horses, goats, ducks, donkeys, cats, people...what are some of the things that each needs to do to make sure the farm works properly. What would happen if they tried to do each other's jobs? Illustrate your thoughts! Cows sitting on nests, donkeys waking up the farmer, or ducks pulling plows!
- Create a Job Wanted poster – use *Kids can Draw Farm Animals* by Walter Foster, *Farm Animals* by Philippe Legendre or *1-2-3 Draw Pets and Farm Animals* by Freddie Levin
- Have you ever been disappointed but not discouraged? This is call perseverance. What made you keep going? Write a story using the repeated refrain "disappointed but not discouraged."

### Related Websites: All Websites are on the WCCPBA Wiki

- How to draw farm animals - [www.youtube.com/watch?v=6nCB\\_IYzkE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6nCB_IYzkE)
- Teresa Bateman biography - [biography.jrank.org/pages/2110/Bateman-Teresa-1957](http://biography.jrank.org/pages/2110/Bateman-Teresa-1957)
- Chris Sheban website - [www.chrissheban.com](http://www.chrissheban.com)
- Conversation with Chris Sheban - [craftingfunforkids.typepad.com/hatchings/2010/11/illustrator-chris-sheban.html](http://craftingfunforkids.typepad.com/hatchings/2010/11/illustrator-chris-sheban.html)

### Text to Text Connections:

*Ragweed's Farm Dog Handbook : (Learn from the Best!)* by Anne Vittur Kennedy

*Big Red Barn* by Margaret Wise Brown

*Can Hens Give Milk?* by Joan Betty Stuchner

*Cock-a-doodle-doo! : a Barnyard Hullabaloo* by Giles Andreae

*Cow Loves Cookies* by Karma Wilson

*Don't Slam the Door* by Dori Chaconas

*Farm Animals* – DK readers

*Old McDonald has a Farm* illustrated by Pam Adams

*Once Upon McDonald's Farm* by Stephen Gammell

*Out and About at the Dairy Farm* by Andy Murphy

*The Day the Dog said, "Cock-a-doodle-doo?!"* by David McPhail

**Created By: Amy Cook**

# Mother Bruce

**By: Ryan T. Higgins**  
**Illustrated: Ryan T. Higgins**

**Synopsis:** Bruce is a grumpy bear. He does not like sunshine, or cute animals, or much of anything else...except cooked eggs. But when some eggs he was planning to boil hatch and the goslings believe he is their mother, he must try to make the best of the situation.

**Suggested Reading Date:** Read in January in the same month as *Finding Winnie* (January 18<sup>th</sup> is National Winnie the Pooh Day)

### Activity Descriptions:

- Discussion of animal imprinting
- Ask students if they have a favorite item that they just truly enjoy; favorite shoes, shirt, dish, food item, etc. Introduce students to Bruce who is very set in his ways and love eggs so much that he eats only egg dishes.
- Discussions for after the story:
- Sequence the different ways Bruce tried getting rid of goslings.
- Compromise – How could Bruce and the goslings compromise living with each other?
- Gosling bookmark blackline provided

### Related Websites: All Websites are on the WCCPBA Wiki

Youtube Video Titles of Animal Imprinting

- Cat cuddles kittens and adopted ducklings <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=570khFoaE4s>
- Annoyed Dog Followed Everywhere by Baby Ducks <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MP6SIDSfcLE>
- Dog babysits deer <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wr6v3MDj5Ww>

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

*The Bear* by Gehrman, Katja

*Ollie* by Dunrea, Oliver

*Little Goose* by Mraz David

**Created By: Charisse Tsukamoto**

# Mummy Cat

## By: Marcus Ewert

## Illustrated: Lisa Brown

**Synopsis:** "Mummy Cat prowls his pyramid home, longing for his beloved owner. As he roams the tomb, lavish murals above his head display scenes of the cat with his young Egyptian queen. Hidden hieroglyphs deepen the tale and are explained in an author's note"--Provided by publisher.

**Suggested Reading Date:** Halloween, National Puzzle Day - January 29<sup>th</sup>

### Activity Descriptions:

- Read the story through and then re-read looking for the hieroglyphs shown in the back. If students take time to find and read them and the pictures a deeper tale of murder, mystery and intrigue can be found.
- Research ancient Egypt, Hatshepsut, or mummies
- Hieroglyphs and how they work (see link to lesson below)
- Art projects- Mummy cats out of cardboard tubes (see link below), Decorate books marks with hieroglyphs
- Talk about the collaborative process of the author and illustrator (video trailer below)

### Related Websites: All Websites are on the WCCPBA Wiki

- Mummy Cat Book trailer- introduces both the author and illustrator <https://vimeo.com/123739870> or <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KOsvRyZYjIE&feature=youtu.be>
- Photo of a real cat mummy from the Metropolitan Museum of Art <http://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/552443>
- Edsitement Lesson on Hieroglyphs <http://edsitement.neh.gov/lesson-plan/egyptian-symbols-and-figures-hieroglyphs#sect-thelesson>
- TeacherVision Lesson on Hieroglyphs (includes worksheets) <https://www.teachervision.com/ancient-egypt/lesson-plan/2525.html>
- Mummy Cat cardboard tube art project - <http://useyourcolouredpencils.blogspot.com/2012/03/egyptian-cat-mummies.html>
- Lisa Brown's Website <http://www.americanchickens.com>

### Text to Text Connections:

*Cat Mummies* by Kelly Trumble

*How the Sphinx Got to the Museum* by Jessie Hartland

*Skippyjon Jones in Mummy Trouble* by Judy Schachner

*Hatshepsut of Egypt* by Shirin Yim Bridges

*The Mummy-makers of Egypt* by Tamara Bower

**Created By: Paula Wittmann**

# Nerdy Birdy

**By: Aaron Reynolds**  
**Illustrated: Matt Davies**

**Synopsis:** Nerdy Birdy realizes he isn't cool. His wings are too small, his glasses too big and he is even allergic to bird feed. When the cool birds shun him, he thinks about his strengths; reading, playing video games, and reading books about them. He still feels lonely until he meets lots of friendly nerdy birdies who share his interests and even look a lot like him.

**Suggested Reading Date:** October is National Bullying Prevention Month

## Activity Descriptions:

- Have a discussion with students about inclusion and acceptance. Introduce story by asking students if there was ever a time they felt like they didn't belong or felt different from classmates?
- After story have a discussion about why Nerdy Birdy felt being a "cool bird" meant? On a "T" chart list characteristics of Nerdy Birdy that made him uncool and on the opposite side a list his strengths.

(It's not just about being accepted by a group, but **being true to yourself** and including people that are different. Important to being true to yourself and standing up for others. Also important to understand that being cool is not being surrounded by people who you think are cool. Being KIND is cool.)

### Characteristics that makes Nerdy Birdy awkward

Wings too small

Glasses s too big

Allergic to bird feed, etc



### Strengths

Reading

Playing video games

Being kind, etc.

THE  
NERDY  
BIRDY

3) Nerdy Birdy Bookmarks provided.

4) Art Activity.... Kids love feathers. Kids could do something as simple as drawing a bird and gluing on a few feathers.



## Sample Feather Activities



**Text to Text Connections:** *Brave Charlotte* by Anu Stohner and Henrike Wilson, *Chicken Sunday* and *Mr. Lincoln's Way* by Patricia Polacco, *It's Okay to be Different* by Todd Parr, *People* by Peter Spier, *Sneetches* by Dr. Seuss, *Stand Tall, Molly Lou Mellon* by Patty Lovell, *Stellaluna* by Janelle Cannon, *Swimmy* by Leo Lionni.

### Related Websites:

- <http://www.pozible.com/project/12184> Short video of author and illustrator talking about their book.

**Created By: Charisse Tsukamoto**

# **A Perfectly Messed –Up Story**

## **By: Patrick McDonnell**

### **Illustrated: Patrick McDonnell**

**Synopsis:** Louie becomes angry when the story in which he appears is ruined by messes from jelly, peanut butter, and other things that do not belong in books.

**Suggested Reading Date:** Beginning of the year for teaching book care, after winter break to do a reminder about book care if you already have the beginning of the year covered.

#### **Activity Descriptions:**

- Bring out all your old saved, damaged books from the previous years, pass out to kids or put on their tables. Have students guess what might have happened to the book and solutions to avoiding the problem for yourself. Talk about book care while reading your book, while at home, while traveling to class, home and school with a book.
- What would your favorite book character say if you mess up their book? Draw a picture and use a talk bubble to make a mini poster for library display (I also like the idea of putting a little something from the library in a plastic sleeve behind the doors in the bathroom stalls). You can also have a class from one day try and guess who said what before you show the picture of who said it (recognizing point of view ) Example Pete the cat might say. "When rocking my school shoes I don't step on books"

#### **Related Websites: All Websites are on the WCCPBA Wiki**

- Author's Website: <http://www.mutts.com/about-patrick#>
- Activity guide from Little Brown lots of curriculum connections  
[http://media.hdp.hbgusa.com/titles/assets/reading\\_group\\_guide/9780316222587/EG\\_9780316222587.pdf](http://media.hdp.hbgusa.com/titles/assets/reading_group_guide/9780316222587/EG_9780316222587.pdf)

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

*Mr. Wiggles Book* by Paula Craig  
*Maybe a Bear Ate it!* by Robie Harris,  
*Wild About Books* by Judy Sierra

**Created By: Kim Guyette**

# Ragweed's Farm Dog Handbook: Learn from the Best!

By: Anne Vittur Kennedy

Illustrated: Anne Vittur Kennedy

**Synopsis:** Farm life is busy. There are lots of jobs; waking the farmer, lying in mud, chasing foxes, even chasing sheep! Ragweed gives you the lowdown on all these jobs and who is qualified for each! As we said, Learn for the biscuits from the best!

**Suggested Reading Date:** End of the year, if you do a farm unit, International Dog Biscuit Day – February 23<sup>rd</sup>

## Activity Descriptions:

- Compare with Teresa Bateman's *Job Wanted*
- At the end of the year, write a letter to next year's students on how to be a great \_\_\_\_ grader. Don't forget to tell them what some of the consequences are if you make a poor choice!
- List all the animals that are on a farm – of course dogs! Roosters, pigs, hens, cows, sheep, horses, goats, ducks, donkeys, cats, people...what are some of the things that each needs to do to make sure the farm works properly. What would happen if they tried to do each other's jobs? Illustrate your thoughts! Cows sitting on nests, donkeys waking up the farmer, or ducks pulling wagons!
- Contact a local dog shelter to see if they would like some homemade dog biscuits –

## Homemade Dog Biscuits (Copycat Milk Bones Recipe)

Prep time: 10 mins  
Cook time: 50 mins  
Total time: 1 hour

### Ingredients

- $\frac{3}{4}$  cup hot water
- $\frac{1}{3}$  cup butter
- $\frac{1}{2}$  cup powdered milk
- 1 egg beaten
- 2 cups whole wheat flour
- 2 tablespoons peanut butter (high quality, all natural peanut butter)

### Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 325 degrees.
2. In a large bowl pour hot water over the butter.
3. Stir in powdered milk and egg.
4. Add flour  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup at a time and stir well.
5. After 2 cups of flour are added, mix in the peanut butter.
6. Knead for a few minutes to form a stiff dough.
7. If the dough feels too sticky add in another  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup of whole wheat flour.
8. Pat or roll dough to  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch thickness.
9. Cut into bone shapes or any shape you prefer.
10. Bake for 50 minutes or until golden brown.
11. Let cool.

**Related Websites: All Websites are on the WCCPBA Wiki**

- Days of the Year – Dog Biscuit Day - [www.daysoftheyear.com/days/international-dog-biscuit-appreciation-day/](http://www.daysoftheyear.com/days/international-dog-biscuit-appreciation-day/)
- Milk Bone History - [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Milk-Bone](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Milk-Bone)
- Biscuit recipe - [myfrugaladventures.com/2014/09/homemade-peanut-butter-dog-biscuits-copycat-milk-bones-recipe/](http://myfrugaladventures.com/2014/09/homemade-peanut-butter-dog-biscuits-copycat-milk-bones-recipe/)
- Ragweed activities - [http://candlewick.com/book\\_files/0763681067.kit.1.pdf](http://candlewick.com/book_files/0763681067.kit.1.pdf)

**Text to Text Connections:**

*Job Wanted* by Teresa Bateman

*Big Red Barn* by Margaret Wise Brown

*Can Hens Give Milk?* by Joan Betty Stuchner

*Cock-a-doodle-doo!: A Barnyard Hullabaloo* by Giles Andreae

*Cow Loves Cookies* by Karma Wilson

*Don't Slam the Door* by Dori Chaconas

*Farm Animals* – DK readers

*Old McDonald has a Farm* illustrated by Pam Adams

*Once Upon McDonald's Farm* by Stephen Gammell

*Out and About at the Dairy Farm* by Andy Murphy

*The Day the Dog said, "Cock-a-doodle-doo?!"* by David McPhail

**Created By: Amy Cook**

# **There Was an Old DRAGON Who Swallowed a Knight**

## **By: Penny Parker Klostermann**

### **Illustrated: Ben Mantle**

**Synopsis:** A knight, a steed, a squire, a cook, a lady, a castle, a moat and one VERY hungry old Dragon. Meet the old dragon who swallows pretty much an entire kingdom!

**Suggested Reading Date:** Anytime or during a fairy tale unit.

#### **Activity Descriptions:**

- Comparing and contrasting similar stories.
- Vocabulary memory: savory, shady, fattens, tassel, guzzled, bloat, quote, perchance, amass, and billow. These will add depth to the young listener's vocabulary by playing a memory game matching above words with synonyms.
- Coloring page or patterns for a felt board story
- Have students make a paper bag Dragon puppet and have them retell story with coloring pieces and puppet.

#### **Related Websites: All Websites are on the WCCPBA Wiki**

- Author's Website: <https://pennyklostermann.com/>
- Illustrator's Website: <http://www.benmantle.co.uk/>
- Random House Kids Activity Packet:  
[http://www.randomhousekids.com/media/activities/OldDragon\\_DownloadActivities\\_WEB.pdf](http://www.randomhousekids.com/media/activities/OldDragon_DownloadActivities_WEB.pdf)
- Activities Recommended by the Author: <https://pennyklostermann.com/there-was-an-old-dragon-who-swallowed-a-knight/activities-for-there-was-an-old-dragon-who-swallowed-a-knight/>
- Author Read Aloud on You Tube: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7LNW6HQ8\\_y](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7LNW6HQ8_y)
- Dragon Ideas via Pinterest: <https://www.pinterest.com/pennyk/dragon-crafts/>
- Family Style Schooling Blog: [http://familystyleschooling.com/2015/11/07/fairy-tale-craft/?utm\\_campaign=coschedule&utm\\_source=twitter&utm\\_medium=famstyleschool6&utm\\_content=There%20Was%20an%20Old%20Dragon%20who%20Swallowed%20a%20Knight](http://familystyleschooling.com/2015/11/07/fairy-tale-craft/?utm_campaign=coschedule&utm_source=twitter&utm_medium=famstyleschool6&utm_content=There%20Was%20an%20Old%20Dragon%20who%20Swallowed%20a%20Knight)
- Fairy Tale Craft Page: <http://familystyleschooling.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/Fairy-Tale-Craft-1.pdf>

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

- *There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly* by a variety of different authors
- *There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Frog* by Lucille Colandro and Jared Lee
- *There Was a Cold Lady Who Swallowed Some Snow* by Lucille Colandro and Jared Lee
- *Oscar and the Very Hungry Dragon* by Ute Krause

**Created By: LaiLee Daling**

# What the Dinosaurs Did Last Night

## By: Refe & Susan Tuma

**Synopsis:** Photographs and simple text reveal the mischief toy dinosaurs get into all night long, from knocking over potted plants to painting on walls.

**Suggested Reading Date:** "Dinovember" (November or December)

### Activity Descriptions:

- Website listed below provides more pictures of dinosaurs in different settings and messes. Print them out and allow students to come up with story lines.
- You could also bring in toy dinosaurs and allow students to create their own dinosaur scenes and stories.
- During "Dinovember" hide dinosaurs throughout the library.
- Kids could play charades. Kids are to act out scenes from story for others to guess.

### Related Websites: All Websites are on the WCCPBA Wiki

- Timblr Webpage for the book: <http://dinovember.tumblr.com/>
- Author's Webpage: <http://refetuma.tumblr.com/>
- Book Trailer via You Tube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bwQP5nXzLrY>

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

1. *Dogs in Cars* by Lara Jo Regan
2. *If You Happen to Have a Dinosaur* by Linda Bailey
3. *Wild About Us* by Karen Beaumont

**Created By: Charisse Tsukamoto**

# **Who Wants A Hug?**

## **By: Jeff Mack**

## **Illustrated: Jeff Mack**

**Synopsis:** Everyone likes Bear except grouchy Skunk, who devises a plan to make Bear stop being happy and hugging others. (from verso)

**Suggested Reading Date:** Valentine's Day

### **Activity Descriptions:**

- Do short, focused, animal research on woodland animals. Key question: "Which animal is most huggable?"
- Create Valentine's Day cards for local Senior Centers.
- Unhuggable creatures: Write a description of how you would hug an unhuggable creature like a porcupine. You could also create a "T" chart of huggable and unhuggable animals.

### **Related Websites: All Websites are on the WCCPBA Wiki**

- Author Website: <http://www.jeffmack.com/>
- Valentine Crafts: <http://www.woohome.com/diy-2/30-fun-and-easy-diy-valentines-day-crafts-kids-can-make>
- Woodland Park Zoo, Plant & Animals fact sheet overview : <http://www.zoo.org/animals#.VxZhNvkrJD8>

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

*The Yuckiest, Stinkiest, Best Valentine Ever* by Brenda Ferber

*One Zillion Valentines* by Frank Modell

*The Monsters' Monster* by Patrick McDonnell

*Betty Bunny Loves Chocolate Cake* by Michael Kaplan

**Created By: Dave Sonnen**