

Blizzard
John Rocco
Disney-Hyperion, 2014
40 pages

SUMMARY:

This is a story from the author's childhood, about the blizzard of '78. When the snow starts falling everyone is excited for snowball fights and sledding; but, after a few days the fun has worn off and the food in the pantry is running out! Little John is the only one light enough to walk on top of all the snow, with the help of some clever tennis racket snow shoes. He makes his way to the store helping neighbors and finding some more fun on the way!

IF YOU LIKE THIS BOOK, TRY...

Blackout, John Rocco

Big Snow, Jonathan Bean

Blue on Blue, Dianne White

Last Stop on Market Street, Matt De La Pena

Snow, Cynthia Rylant

WEBSITES:

Author's website, <http://roccoart.com/a-blizzard-is-coming/> includes book trailer

Site all about the actual Blizzard, <http://www.blizzardof78.org/> includes a great photo library

Interview with John Rocco, <http://blaine.org/sevenimpossiblethings/?p=2143> includes article and video

BOOKTALK:

The weather forecast is calling for snow!! Everyone is excited about seeing the first flakes. All the kids are talking about being out of school and having snowball fights and sledding! Then it starts snowing...and it doesn't stop. A blizzard hits... the snow isn't fun anymore! When the storm calms there are 40 inches of snow on the ground and not much food left in the pantry. John (the author and illustrator of this tale) is just a kid, but the only one light enough to walk on top of all that snow. The store is over a mile from his house. Will he be able to make it there and back on his tennis racket snow shoes and bring food to his family? What will he find on the way to the store? John is ready to have his own adventure in the snow!

Prepared by:

Glenda Carnes, Cotton Belt Elementary School, gcarnes@york.k12.sc.us

Breaking News: Bear Alert

David Biedzrycki
Charlesbridge, 2014
34 pages

SUMMARY:

Told from the viewpoint of a TV news reporter, the antics of two bears, oblivious to the fact that they are terrorizing the citizens of a town that they have invaded, are hilariously pictured, unveiling another story within the black and white television illustrations.

IF YOU LIKED THIS BOOK, TRY...

This is a Moose, by Richard T. Morris and Tom Lichtenheld

Found, by Salina Yoon

The Bear Ate Your Sandwich, by Julia Sarcone-Roach

Room for Bear, by Ciara Gavin

You Will be My Friend, by Peter Brown

Other books by David Biedzrycki (*Ace Lacewing* series, *My and My Dragon*, *Santa's New Jet*, *Santa Retires*, and *Breaking News: Bears to the Rescue*--a sequel to *Breaking News, Bear Alert!*)

WEBSITES:

YouTube, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r2lB7Gpde_I Book Trailer from Publisher (Charlesbridge)

YouTube, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qAn6JpoO_Hs Author/Illustrator, David Biedzrycki, showing his writing and illustration process

BOOKTALK:

What would happen if two hungry bears suddenly showed up in your town? Would they be welcomed with open arms? Or would folks flee, screaming their heads off? In *Breaking News: Bear Alert!*, you'll learn first-hand from an on-the-scene news crew about the wild antics that ensue when a couple of "ferocious" creatures visit the big city.

Prepared by:

Betsy Long, Doby's Mill Elementary School, Elizabeth.long@kcsdschools.net

Dog vs. Cat

Chris Gall

Little, Brown Books, 2014

32 pages

SUMMARY:

Cat and Dog do not get along. When they find themselves in a new home sharing a room, Dog and Cat must figure out how to live together.

IF YOU LIKED THIS BOOK, TRY:

My New Friend is so Fun! By Mo Willems

Dog Breath by Dav Pilkey

Pete the Cat by Eric Litwin

WEBSITES:

Author's website: <http://www.chrisgallbooks.com/>

Learning to Cooperate: <http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/article/ages-stages-learning-cooperate>

Cooperative Games: http://www.creativekidsathome.com/games/cooperative_games/

BOOKTALK:

Have you ever met someone that you didn't think you could be friends with only to discover that once you got to know them they became your best friend ever? That is what happens to Dog and Cat in this book. Dog is messy and Cat is organized. Cat won't stop primping and Dog won't stop howling. What will it take to bring Dog and Cat together?

Prepared by:

Kriss Kirkindoll, Bethel Elementary School, kkirkindoll@greenville.k12.sc.us

E-I-E-I-O: How Old MacDonald Got His Farm (with a little help from a hen)

Judy Sierra

Candlewick Press, 2014

32 pages

SUMMARY:

Once upon a time, Old MacDonald didn't have a farm. He just had a yard — a yard he didn't want to mow. But under the direction of the wise (and ecologically sensitive) Little Red Hen, Mac learns to look at the environment in a very different way, and whole new worlds start to bloom with the help of some mud, garbage, horse poop, and worms!

IF YOU LIKED THIS BOOK, TRY...

Click, Clack, Moo, Cows That Type by Doreen Cronin

Cock-a-doodle-doo, creak, pop-pop, moo by Jim Aylesworth

The Curious Garden by Peter Brown

Duck in the Truck by Jez Alborough

G is for Goat by Patricia Polacco

A Green, Green Garden by Mercer Mayer

Jack's Garden by Henry Cole

My Garden by Kevin Henkes

Planting a Rainbow by Lois Ehlert

Secrets of the Garden by Kathleen Zoehfeld

WEBSITES:

Composting with worms (lesson plan for preschoolers), <http://www.in.gov/idem/iee/2369.htm>

DHEC, <http://www.scdhec.gov/compost/>, Compost Information

My First Garden <http://extension.illinois.edu/firstgarden/>

National Gardening Association, <http://www.kidsgardening.org/>, kids site

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, <http://kids.niehs.nih.gov/explore/reduce/index.htm>

Worm Composting for Kids, <http://www.wormcompostinghq.com/caring-for-worms/worm-composting-for-kids>

BOOKTALK:

Have you ever wondered what worms were good for? Or garbage? What about poop (*the animal kind that is*)? Old MacDonald wasn't always a farmer, as Judy Sierra tells us in this charming picture book. He gets some gardening advice from the little red hen using things we think are pretty nasty, but in fact give him a flourishing garden and farm. Who knew a hen could be so smart?

Prepared by:

Michal Hope Brandon, Bethel Hanberry Elementary School parent, mbrandon@richland2.org

Flight School

Lita Judge

Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2014

34 pages

SUMMARY:

Little Penguin sets a course for adventure when he leaves his home in the South Pole and ventures to Flight School. Although he has the “soul of an eagle,” he still has the body of a penguin – a body not meant to fly. With his red aviator goggles and unquenchable desire to learn, Penguin practices with the other birds for weeks. When Penguin is finally cleared for his first flight, the inevitable happens. Broken-hearted, he starts to head for home. His teachers and classmates, however, find a solution that allows him to realize his dream, if only temporarily. Much of this story is told through the illustrations more than the text, so children will enjoy seeing the actions and ingenuity of the birds and their cartoonish personalities as they help Penguin learn to “fly.”

IF YOU LIKED THIS BOOK, TRY...

Tightrope Poppy the High-Wire Pig, Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen

The Monkey Goes Bananas, C.P. Bloom

The Cow That Went Oink, Bernard Most

Froggy Rides a Bike, Jonathan London

The Very Busy Spider, Eric Carle

WEBSITES:

Author’s website, www.litajudge.net

Penguins’ World, www.penguins-world.com/adelie-penguin, learn more about penguins, especially the Adelie

BOOKTALK:

Little Penguin wants to learn to fly, so he heads off to Flight School to learn with the other birdies. But everyone knows that penguins can’t fly! With a little practice (and a lot of help from his friends,) Little Penguin’s dreams come true (sort-of.) Watch for the zany twist at the end of the story as Little Penguin comes back to Flight School with a friend.

Prepared by:

Morgan Fuller, Byrd Elementary, mfuller@acpsd.net

Gaston

DiPucchio, Kelly

Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2014

32 pages

SUMMARY:

Mrs. Poodle and her puppies discover a mistake has been made when she meets Mrs. Bulldog and her brood at a park on a sunny spring day.

IF YOU LIKED THIS BOOK, TRY....

Crafty Chloe, Kelly DiPucchio

Dress Up, Mess Up, Kelly DiPucchio

Zombie in Love, Kelly DiPucchio

WEBSITES:

Kelly DiPucchio, <http://www.kellydipucchio.com/home.html>, author's website

AKC Poodles, <http://www.akc.org/dog-breeds/poodle/>, information about the breed of poodles

AKC Bulldog, <http://www.akc.org/dog-breeds/bulldog/>, information about the breed of bulldogs

BOOKTALK:

Have you ever felt a little bit different than the rest of your family? Well, Gaston, a bulldog puppy raised by Mrs. Poodle never thought he was different from his poodle siblings. He has a great time playing with his family, looks pretty in pink, and can even walk with grace. But all that changes when Mrs. Poodle takes her children to the park. There they meet Mrs. Bulldog and her puppies, which includes a poodle named Antoinette. The dog families realize a mistake has been made. Will they make things right by switching, or will they be making a bigger mistake? Read *Gaston* by Kelly DiPucchio to find out.

Prepared by:

Deborah Wolfe, Bryson Elementary School, dwolfe@greenville.k12.sc.us

Going Places

Peter and Paul Reynolds

Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2014

40 pages

SUMMARY:

As *Going Places* begins, Rafael and Maya (and every other student in their classroom) receive identical kits with precise directions to build identical go-carts. Rafael follows the detailed specifications to build his cart, so it looks exactly like the picture in the kit box. To his surprise, Maya's go-cart looks nothing like the model that the instructions specify – she hasn't even followed the directions! They decide that together they can build a spectacular model to enter into the competition. Although their fellow students doubt them, Maya and Rafael build an astonishing "go-cart" that wins the competition. As the story ends, readers catch a glimpse of future creative adventures the two friends may pursue.

Paul and Peter Reynolds have created a place in the pages of *Going Places* where everyone doesn't need to fit in the same box. Thinking, creativity, building, imagination and teamwork are celebrated. Read *Going Places* to reach young imaginations, enabling children to use their creativity to soar beyond expectations.

IF YOU LIKED THIS BOOK, TRY...

Beautiful Oops! By Salzberg, B.

The Boy who Drew Birds by Davies, J.

The Boy Who Loved Math: The Improbable Life of Paul Erdos by Heiligman, D.

The Dot by Reynolds, Peter H.

Iggy Peck, Architect by Beaty, A.

Ish by Reynolds, Peter H.

Marvelous Mattie: How Margaret E. Knight Became an Inventor by McCully, E.

Mr. Ferris and his Wheel by Davis, K.

The Most Magnificent Thing by Spires, A.

The Noisy Paint Box by Rosenstock, B.

The North Star by Reynolds, Peter H.

On a Beam of Light: A Story of Albert Einstein by Berne, J.

Papa's Mechanical Fish by Fleming, C.

Rosie Revere, Engineer by Beaty, A.

That's a Possibility!: A Book About What Might Happen by Goldstone, B.

Timeless Thomas: How Thomas Edison Changed our Lives by Baretta, G.

Wild Ideas by Kelsey, E.

WEBSITES:

Charlesbridge. <http://www.charlesbridge.com/pages/paul-a-reynolds>. Learn about Paul Reynolds (Author).

Fablevision Learning. <http://shop.fablevisionlearning.com/going-places/learnmore/about-creators/fa/shop.detail/productid/2951/>. Learn about the author and illustrator of *Going Places*.

FablevisionLearning. <http://shop.fablevisionlearning.com/goingplaces/learnmore/overview/fa/shop.detail/productid/2951/#.VlkQwDZdFf0>. Read an overview of *Going Places*.

Going Places Activities,

http://static1.squarespace.com/static/54a08126e4b038053fec29c3/t/550b1eb8e4b032d17ff33ecb/1426792120348/going_places_activities.pdf.

Print activities specifically related to *Going Places*.

Peter Reynolds. <http://www.peterhreynolds.com/meet.html>. Learn about Peter H. Reynolds (*Going Places* Illustrator):

BOOKTALK:

Have you ever created something? Did you follow the directions that were given to you, or were you brave enough to add your own ideas? *Going Places* is a fun book about two friends who use their imaginations to make a school project even cooler than it already is. With their creative imagination, they will soar above their classmates – surprising everyone who sees them. Read this book to learn more about what can happen when creative minds work together!

Prepared by: Charlotte Easley, Shaw Heights Elementary charlotte.easley@sumterschools.net

Here Comes the Easter Cat
Deborah Underwood
Dial Books for Young Readers, 2014
Unpaged

SUMMARY:

When Cat tries to replace the Easter Bunny, he soon learns that the job is much harder than he expected—and does not allow time for naps.

IF YOU LIKED THIS BOOK, TRY...

Here Comes Santa Cat, Deborah Underwood
Here Comes Valentine Cat, Deborah Underwood
Splat the Cat: Where's the Easter Bunny?, Rob Scotton
The Easter Bunny's Assistant, Jan Thomas
The Bad Easter Bunny, Isabel Atherton
Chester's Colorful Easter Eggs, Theresa Smythe
Piggy Bunny, Jeremy Tankard

WEBSITES:

Deborah Underwood, <http://deborahunderwoodbooks.com/> Author's official website
Apples 4 the Teacher, <http://www.apples4theteacher.com/holidays/easter-fun/> Loads of Easter crafts and activities for kids
YouTube, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3_B5sPKdvD8 Youtube video "Here Comes Peter Kittertail" Lots of goofy, silly, lovable cats dressed up for Easter!

BOOKTALK:

Why should the Easter Bunny get all the love? That's what Cat would like to know. So he decides to take over. He puts on his sparkly suit, jumps on his motorcycle, and roars off into the night. But it turns out delivering Easter eggs is hard work. And it doesn't leave much time for naps (of which Cat has taken five...no, *seven*). So when a pooped-out Easter Bunny shows up, *and* with a treat for Cat, what will Cat do?

Prepared by:

Karen Hoover, Cherryvale Elementary, Karen.hoover@sumterschools.net

I'm My Own Dog

David Ezra Stein

Candlewick Press, 2014

32 pages

SUMMARY:

The unnamed canine protagonist prides himself on taking orders from absolutely no one. As the title suggests, this pooch is clearly his own dog. He gets his own slippers, fetches his own stick, and does everything else for himself. If anyone told him to sit, he would not even think about doing it. Nope, no siree, not this pup. But when he cannot reach an itch in the middle of his back, he lets a human scratch it for him. The rest of this delightful tale depicts a dog with a really friendly pet human.

IF YOU LIKED THIS BOOK, TRY:

Dog's Colorful Day by Emma Dodd

Love Monster by Rachel Bright

Bark, George by Jules Feiffer

This Book Just Ate My Dog! By Richard Byrne

WEBSITES:

David Ezra Stein, www.davidezra.com, author's official website

I'm My Own Dog, <http://davidezra.com/I-m-My-Own-Dog>, reviews and comments about this book

BOOKTALK:

The dog in this story believes he is his own master. It's good to be independent, but sometimes you have to rely on someone else's help for some things, like scratching pesky itches. If the dog is really his own master, how is he going to scratch the one spot on his back he can't reach? One adventurous day, he lets a human scratch it, and the poor little fellow follows the dog home. A clever story about a dog and his best friend.

Prepared by:

Jennifer Simmons, Anderson County Library, jsimmons@andersonlibrary.org

It's an Orange Aardvark!

Michael Hall

Greenwillow Books, 2014

40 pages

SUMMARY:

Five ants at home in their tree are curious and begin to wonder what might be outside their tree. Each ant worries that it might be something different trying to eat them, but when they start to peek out to see, they find out it's not so bad!

IF YOU LIKED THIS BOOK, TRY:

The Very Hungry Caterpillar, Eric Carle

Chicka Chicka Boom Boom, Bill Martin, Jr.

The Pigeon Finds a Hot Dog, Mo Willems

Blue Hat, Green Hat, Sandra Boynton

WEBSITES:

Michael Hall, <http://www.michaelhallstudio.com/pages/books/aardvark/video.html>, Book Trailer

Pest World, <http://www.pestworldforkids.org/pest-guide/ants/>, Information about carpenter ants

National Geographic, <http://animals.nationalgeographic.com/animals/mammals/aardvark/>,

Information about aardvarks

BrainPop Jr., <https://jr.brainpop.com/science/animals/insects/>, video on insects

BOOKTALK:

Have you ever been afraid of something that you didn't know for sure was even there? Afraid to open your eyes in the dark? Afraid to look and see what might be happening? In *It's An Orange Aardvark!* five ants are very scared to look outside of their tree because of all of the scary things they imagine in their mind, but when they gather their courage and look you will be so surprised at what they find!!

Prepared by:

Kriss Kirkindoll, Bethel Elementary School, kkirkindoll@greenville.k12.sc.us

Ivan: The Remarkable True Story of the Shopping Mall Gorilla

Katherine Applegate

Clarion Books, 2014

40 pages

SUMMARY

The true story of how a gorilla was taken from his home and family and sent to live as an exhibit in a shopping mall, all alone in an unfamiliar world.

IF YOU LIKED THIS BOOK, TRY...

A Mom for Umande, Maria Fasal Faulconer

I Know a Bear, Mariana Ruiz Johnson

Breakfast in the Rainforest: A Visit with Mountain Gorillas, Richard Sobol

WEBSITES:

Zoo Atlanta, http://www.zooatlanta.org/ivan?ff_s=V-udX The Atlanta Zoo website dedicated to the life and times of Ivan, including timeline and videos.

YouTube, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OYYL2LxotA8> A look into Ivan's life at the shopping mall.

Teaching Books, <http://www.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?tid=37615&s=n&a=1> Book resources (educator guides, lesson plans, etc.) and author resources (blogs, interviews, personal website, etc.)

Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund, <http://gorillafund.org/> The Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International website dedicated to the education and preservation of gorillas.

BOOKTALK

How would you feel if you were taken away from your family and home and sent thousands of miles away? What if your journey began with a friend, someone like you, and then that friend dies and you're left all alone? Then imagine that you outgrew the house you were living in with a human family and had to move to a large concrete room where people stared at you all day. This is exactly what happened to a gorilla named Ivan. Ripped from his home and family in Africa, he was brought to the United States as an "attraction" without any regards to his life and feelings. He may be just an animal, but animals have rights too! If you're interested in learning more about his twenty-seven years living in a cage, then read *Ivan: The Remarkable True Story of the Shopping Mall Gorilla* by Katherine Applegate.

Prepared by: Rebecca Adams, McDonald Elementary School radams@gcsd.k12.sc.us

Kid Sheriff and the Terrible Toads

Bob Shea

Roaring Brook Press, 2014

32 pages

SUMMARY:

Drywater Gulch has a problem with toads. Not the kind of toads who hop and croak, but the outlaw kind. The ones who steal, hoot, and holler. The town is down on its luck and its hope when seven-year-old Sheriff Ryan rides into town. He knows almost nothing about cowboy things, but he knows a lot about dinosaurs. It turns out that knowing something about dinosaurs comes in handy when it comes to ropin' in some toads!

IF YOU LIKED THIS, TRY...

Leroy Ninker Saddles Up by Kate DiCamillo

The Smallest Girl in the Smallest Grade by Justin Roberts

WEBSITES:

Bob Shea, www.bobshea.com-- Website for author Bob Shea

Lane Smith, www.lanesmithbooks.com-- Web site for illustrator Lane Smith

Pinterest—various activities for the book as well as other books by Bob Shea

BOOKTALK:

Drywater Gulch, a very spicy town, has a serious problem with Toads—the Toad Brothers. They keep causing all kinds of mayhem and mischief for the town with their stealing, kidnapping, shoplifting, cattle-kissing, and general foolishness. Just when the town is sure that nothing or no one can solve the Toad problem, along comes a hero. His name is Ryan, he is seven, and he rides into town on a tortoise. Ryan knows little about the Toads but a lot about dinosaurs and he uses what he knows to trick those ornery Toads. To find out how Sheriff Ryan saves the day, read *Kid Sheriff and the Terrible Toads*.

Prepared by Beth Miller, East End Elementary School, Easley, SC

Mister Bud Wears the Cone

Carter Goodrich

Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2014

48 pages

SUMMARY:

Mister Bud and Zorro learned how to get along in *Say Hello to Zorro!* They made it through Zorro's new wardrobe in *Zorro Gets an Outfit*. But how will they handle Mister Bud's latest predicament? Because he has to wear...the cone. In this next addition to an adventure canine pals Mister Bud and Zorro encounter--the cone.

IF YOU LIKED THIS BOOK, TRY...

Puddle Pug, Kim Norman

I'm My Own Dog, David Ezra Stein

Zorra Gets an Outfit, Carter Goodrich

Say Hello to Zorro, Carter Goodrich

Chick 'n' Pug, Jennifer Sattler

WEBSITES:

Kid Sites Animals, <http://www.kidsites.com/sites-edu/animals.htm>

Carter Goodrich, <http://cartergoodrich.com>, Author Website

YouTube, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P0TzLrMATy4>, Book Read Aloud

BOOKTALK:

Canine pals Mister Bud and Zorro encounter... the cone! Mister Bud and Zorro have an interesting past in learning to get along and making it through Zorro's new wardrobe. How will they handle Mister Bud's latest predicament? The cone! Read Carter Goodrich's book, *Mister Bud Wears the Cone* to see just what Mister Bud and Zorro do to survive the cone!

Prepared by:

Aleisha Ainsworth, Cheraw Primary, aainsworth@chesterfieldschools.org

The Monkey Goes Bananas
C.P. Bloom
Abrams Books for Young Readers, NY, 2014
38 pages

SUMMARY:

Monkey spies some bananas and sets out to figure out a plan to get them!

IF YOU LIKED THIS BOOK, TRY...

The Monkey and the Bee, Bloom, C.P.
Count the Monkeys, Barnett, Mac
Monkey Ono, Phillipps, J.C,
Warning: do not open this book! Lehrhaupt, Adam
Duck, Duck, Moose Bardhan-Quallen, Sudipta
This is Moose Morris, Richard T.
Found Yoon, Salina
It's an Orange Aardvark Hall, Michael
Oh Dear Geoffrey O'Neil, Gemma
Froodle Portis, Antoinette
This book just ate my dog Byrne, Richard
Pardon Me Miyares, Daniel
One Big Pair of Underwear Gehl, Laura

WEBSITES:

<https://youtu.be/oMDWRaa7gFA> you-tube book trailer
<https://youtu.be/ZlrbNm5Ij5E> you-tube book talk
<http://wonderopolis.org/wonder/why-do-monkeys-love-bananas/> Wonderopolis wonder: Why do Monkeys love bananas?
<http://www.raymundoarts.com/> artist's website
<http://www.slj.com/2014/06/collection-development/jlg-booktalks/picture-books-that-make-you-laugh-out-loud/> School Library Journal's review of Junior Library Guild's book talks to go (links to JLG's site and Teachingbooks.net site- need to be a member to access resources)
<https://www.pinterest.com/juniorlibraryg/jlgs-booktalks-to-go/> Ready to go book talks for picture books by School Library Journal

BOOKTALK:

Spying bananas on a neighboring island, monkey has to devise a plan to cross the water to retrieve his meal. As he attempts to travel across the water he encounters an additional obstacle—SHARK! How will monkey get to the bananas? Will he be successful? Read *the Monkey Goes Bananas* to see. Be prepared to laugh out loud!

Prepared by:

Sherell Stepp, Gilbert Primary School, shstepp@lexington1.net

My Teacher is a Monster! (No, I am not.)

Peter Brown

Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, 2014

40 pages

SUMMARY:

Bobby's teacher, Ms. Kirby, is so mean that she is a monster. She screams and yells and even takes away recess. Bobby tries to forget about her when he's not at school by going to the park until one day, something terrible happens, Ms. Kirby is at the park! He is afraid of her, so he has to be polite. After he saves her hat, he learns that she is actually not as bad as she seems.

IF YOU LIKED THIS BOOK, TRY...

I Need My Monster, Amanda Noll

The Teacher from the Black Lagoon, Mike Thaler

This is the Teacher, Rhonda Gowler Greene

WEBSITES:

Peter Brown, <http://www.peterbrownstudio.com/uncategorized/my-teacher-is-a-monster-no-i-am-not/#.Vl8bKdKrT4Y> The author Peter Brown's website where he explains the story behind the book and even shows the process he used to illustrate the book.

Peter Brown, http://www.peterbrownstudio.com/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/TeacherMonster_kit.pdf *My Teacher is a Monster* Activity Guide

YouTube, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iu8lMajbigQ> *My Teacher is a Monster* read aloud.

BOOKTALK:

Have you ever had a teacher you couldn't stand? If you've ever had a teacher that was tough to take, then you know how frustrating it can be. In *My Teacher is a Monster* Bobby gets stuck with Ms. Kirby who yells all the time. When he has free time he goes to the park so he can forget how terrible it is at school. Guess who he sees at the park one day? Ms. Kirby! Bobby is scared to ignore her so he sits down and they begin to talk. Suddenly a gust of wind comes up and takes away her hat and Bobby learns there is more to the monster than meets the eye. To find out what happens when Bobby hangs out with his teacher the monster for the day read *My Teacher is a Monster! (No, I am not.)* by Peter Brown.

Prepared by: Amy Trask, Lady's Island Elementary School, amy.trask@beaufort.k12.sc.us

One Big Pair of Underwear

By Laura Gehl

Beach Lane Books, 2014

34 pages

SUMMARY:

A hilarious lesson in counting and sharing are presented in this silly rhyming book that features numerous animals struggling to share common items.

IF YOU LIKED THIS BOOK, TRY...

Llama, Llama Time to Share, Anna Dewdney

One Gorilla: A Counting Book, Anthony Browne

Brief Thief, Michael Escoffier

Bear in Underwear, Todd H. Doodler

Polar Bear's Underwear, Tupera Tupera

WEBSITES:

Laura Gehl, <http://www.lauragehl.com/> Author's Website

YouTube, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D4BggiS-mVA> Sharing song & video

BOOKTALK:

What do you get when you combine bears, yaks, cats, pigs, and an assortment of other animals?!?! A BIG argument, especially when it comes to 1 enormous pair of underwear. If you like rhyming, counting, sharing, and underwear you will absolutely love this silly story!

Prepared by: Betsy Long, Doby's Mill Elementary School, elizabeth.long@kcsdschools.net

Pardon Me

Daniel Miyares

Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, NY, 2014

32 pages

SUMMARY:

A little bird just wants some peace and quiet—but he's about to get a whole lot more than he bargained for.

IF YOU LIKED THIS BOOK, TRY...

The Wide-Mouthed Frog: a pop-up book, Keith Faulkner

All For Me and None for All, Helen Lester

Swamp Chomp, Lola M. Schaefer

Monster Knows Excuse Me, Connie Colwell Miller

WEBSITES:

Daniel Miyares, <http://www.danielmiyares.com/>, author's official website

Audubon, <https://www.audubon.org/field-guide?page=1>, Practice some bird identification and hear actual bird calls paired with Audubon's paintings

Discovery, <http://www.discovery.com/tv-shows/north-america/videos/filming-alligators-up-close/>, Video and discussion of filming alligators

Feather crafts for children: <https://craftulate.com/2013/04/15-feather-crafts-for-children.html>

BOOKTALK:

Have you ever found a nice cozy spot maybe in the library or at your house? Somewhere you can read a book or draw. It looks so cozy that your sister or someone in your class comes to share it with you. Then someone else comes, and pretty soon you are crowded and it isn't so cozy anymore. That is what happens to the bird in this story. You might just decide sharing your cozy spot with your friends is okay after all.

Prepared by:

E. Kim Livingston, St. James-Santee Elementary School,
elizabeth_livingston@charleston.k12.sc.us

Peanut Butter & Cupcake

Terry Border

Philomel Books 2014

32 pages

SUMMARY:

Peanut Butter is lonely and the new kid in town. He sets off on an adventure to find a friend. As he walks around his neighborhood he finds all sorts of potential friends, hot dog, cupcake, egg, but no one seems to have the time for someone new. Will he find his perfect match? This is a great book about friendship and the willingness to look at "people" who aren't necessarily just like you.

IF YOU LIKED THIS BOOK, TRY...

Two, Kathryn Otoshi

Happy Birthday Cupcake, Terry Boarder

Stick and Stone, Beth Ferry

WEBSITES:

Dolly Parton Imagination Library

<http://support.imaginationlibrary.com/customer/portal/articles/1854140-peanut-butter-cupcake-activity-sheets#.VlzaP3arSUK>

This website has activities related to the book, such as a maze, dot to dot, color sheet, and a friendship game to be played with the entire class.

The Happy Teacher...Ready for the Day

<http://www.thehappyteacher.co/2015/08/teaching-friendship-with-peanut-butter.html>

This website has free downloadable writing sheets about friendship correlated to the book.

BOOKTALK:

"Um...Hello???? I'm new here, and I'd like to play??? Would you be Peanut Butter's friend? Even if you were an egg? meatball? hot dog? or a cupcake? Even though we all are different we can still be friends. Read this fun book to find out how Peanut Butter finds his perfect match but also finds other friends along the way!

Prepared by:

Amelia Eakin, Woodfields Elementary School, eakina@gwd50.org

A Piece of Cake

LeUyen Pham
Balzer + Bray, 2014
40 pages

SUMMARY:

Mouse travels to Little Bird's home as he attempts to deliver a homemade birthday cake. Along the way, Mouse meets four animals who want to trade items with him for a slice of cake, and some of them not what you think. For example, Chicken, surrounded by eggs, naturally offers Mouse... a cork. Pham's story comes into its own as Mouse and Little Bird return to Mouse's house and re-gift each weird item in ingenious ways.

IF YOU LIKED THIS BOOK, TRY...

Hooray for Hat, Brian Won

The Little Red Hen, Paul Galdone

The Little Red Hen, Lucinda McQueen

The Sandwich Swap, Rania Al Abdullah

The Boy Who Wouldn't Share, Mike Reiss

WEBSITES:

YouTube, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Yq8ojnrjco>, Book Review

We Need Diverse Books, <http://weneeddiversebooks.org/artist-spotlight-leuyen-pham/>,
Information on Author

BOOKTALK:

Mouse has baked a special treat for Little Bird's birthday! But delivering it to his friend isn't easy—not when everyone he meets along the way offers to trade something for a piece of cake... What will mouse do? What will the animals offer in exchange for a piece of cake? Read this book to discover just what happens with Mouse and his friends!

Prepared by:

Aleisha Ainsworth, Cheraw Primary, aainsworth@chesterfieldschools.org

Rags: Hero Dog of WWI A True Story

Margot Theis Raven
Sleeping Bear Press 2014
26 pages

SUMMARY:

During World War I, James Donovan worked for one of the United States Army stations in France, where he met a dog that he named Rags. Donovan and Rags became friends and accompanied each other in the battlefield.

IF YOU LIKED THIS BOOK, TRY...

Stubby the War Dog The True Story of World War I's Bravest Dog, Ann Bausum
Winnie: The True Story of the Bear Who Inspired Winnie-the-Pooh, Sally M. Walker
War Dogs Churchill and Rufus, Kathryn Seibert
Nubs the True Story of a Mutt, a Marine and a Miracle Major, Brian Dennis

WEBSITES:

YouTube, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cRQ5jMdkLK4>, book trailer
Margot Theis Raven, <http://www.margotraven.com>, author website
Ducksters, http://www.ducksters.com/history/world_war_i/, information about WWI
Hero Dogs, <http://www.herodogawards.org/> American Humane Society Hero Dogs

BOOKTALK:

This is one brave little dog! Imagine being on the streets of Paris during WWI all alone and hungry. Suddenly sirens blare and you take shelter in an empty doorway. A man appears from out of nowhere and steps on your paw. OUCH! Luckily for you he is a friendly man and very sorry for hurting you. He scoops you up in his arms and life as you know it is about to change. If you like history and stories about brave animals, *Rags Hero Dog of WWI*, will have you hooked from start to finish.

Prepared by:

Lynda Jernigan, Coosa Elementary School, lynda.jernigan@beaufort.k12.sc.us