WALKER BOOKS

Read to Us!

STORY TIME KIT

TERM ONE & TWO 2020

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It is our pleasure to present our first Walker Books *Read to Us! Story Time Kit* for 2020. This kit contains simple and entertaining activities to be used in conjunction with our books. Each activity is designed to foster the skills that lead to early reading success in children.

Our term one and two 2020 Story Time Kit showcases four delightful books filled with themes of emotions, celebrations, friendship, counting, Australian animals and vehicles. For each title, we offer activities aimed at boosting children's narrative skills, letter knowledge, print awareness, vocabulary, print motivation, or phonological awareness – but most of all, their enthusiasm for literature.

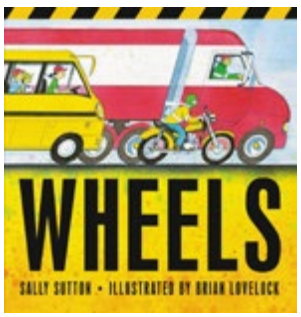
Have fun!

BOOKS FEATURED IN THIS STORY TIME KIT

Big Hug, Little Mouse
Lisa Kerr
9781760651107
March 2020

Sometimes Cake
Edwina Wyatt &
Tamsin Ainslie
9781760650421
May 2020

Ten Little Figs
Rhiân Williams &
Nathaniel Eckstrom
9781921977312
April 2020



Wheels
Sally Sutton &
Brian Lovelock
9781760651589
February 2020

This Story Time Kit was written in consultation with Rebecka Sharpe Shelberg.

Rebecka is a librarian, children's author and general book enthusiast, who lives in Sydney, Australia, with her bearded husband, three small mischievous children, two fluffy dogs and a bearded dragon. Though she is obsessed with books of all kinds, she is particularly enamoured with picture books and would happily spend an entire day (and a year's salary) in a good bookstore. Her first picture book, *Reflection*, was a CBCA Notable book for 2017.

Cover illustration from *Sometimes Cake*. Illustrations © 2020 Tamsin Ainslie.

Big Hug, Little Mouse

Themes

Emotion • Affection • Respect • Friends

Exploring the Story

Millie loves lots of things. Take a poll in your group asking the children which of Millie's favourite things they love to do as well. Are any of Millie's favourite activities loved by everyone in the group? Are there any that no one loves? What are some other activities that your group love to do? Who do they like to do these things with?

Most of all, Millie loves her friends…and hugging! There are lots of different reasons we might want to hug our family and friends. Talk with your group about the different reasons Millie and her friends hug. Are there any more reasons you can think of (a celebration hug, a hug to warm up, a feeling sick hug)?

Not everyone likes to show affection by hugging. Did you notice that one character said "Not me!" when Millie asked "Who wants a hug?"? Which character was that? Where is that character when everyone else is hugging? Why do you think they didn't want a hug? Discuss with the group the need for respecting personal boundaries and talk about some other ways we can show affection with our family and friends instead of hugging (i.e. high fives, waving, blowing kisses, holding hands).

When Millie wakes up feeling sad, she thinks she has lost her hug. Ask your group if they have ever felt the same way. What has made them feel that way? Did a hug help them feel better? What else has made them feel better?

Millie goes looking for her hug, but she isn't sure what it looks like. If a hug was something you could find, what might it look, smell, or feel like? What are some other things that make you feel as good as a warm hug (i.e. hot chocolate, a warm snuggly blanket, a hot bath)?

Illustrations © 2020 Lisa Kerr

Activity Sheets

Pop Up Hug Card

Using the attached template, create your own pop up hugging Millie card for someone in your life who really needs a hug.

Who would you hug?

If, like Millie, you had a whole day to hug everyone you wanted, who would you hug? Why do you want to hug them? Pretend you are Millie and draw who you would be hugging in each frame.

What's in a Hug? Word Search

A hug can make us feel lots of things. Find the words that describe how a hug makes you feel.

Help Millie Find Her Hug

Millie needs your help finding her hug. Develop problem solving and fine motor skills with this maze.

Related Titles

My Very Own Space
Pippa Goodhart &
Rebecca Crane
9781911171126

La La La: A Story of Hope
Kate DiCamillo &
Jaime Kim
9781406378009

Angry Cookie
Laura Dockrill &
Maria Karipidou
9781406369106

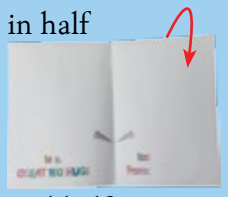
Hug Me
Simona Ciraolo
9781909263499

Illustrations © 2020 Lisa Kerr

Pop Up Hug Card

Step 1:
Decorate your card template

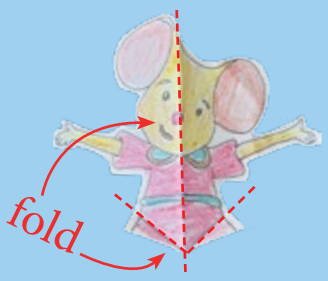
Step 2:
Fold the card in half



and half again

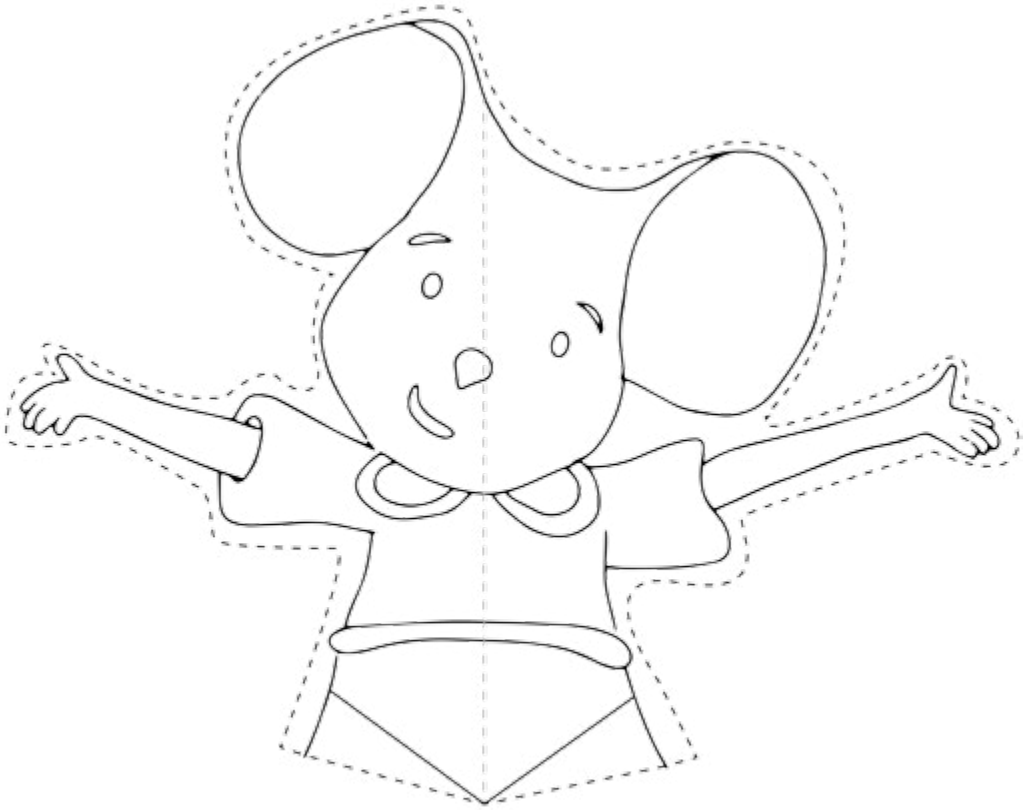
Step 3:
Decorate Millie (template below) and cut around the outside dotted line

Step 4:
Fold Millie in half along the faint dotted line and fold the two triangles at the bottom



Step 5:
Glue the back of the triangles on Millie's dress to the grey triangles on the card template

Now you have your very own pop up hug card!



WALKER BOOKS

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WHAT YOU NEED...

is a

GREAT BIG HUG!

Glue Millie here

Glue Millie here

to:

from:

Name: _____

Who would you hug?

I want to hug _ _ _ _ _ _ because _____

_____

_____

_____

Name: _____

What's in a Hug? Word Search

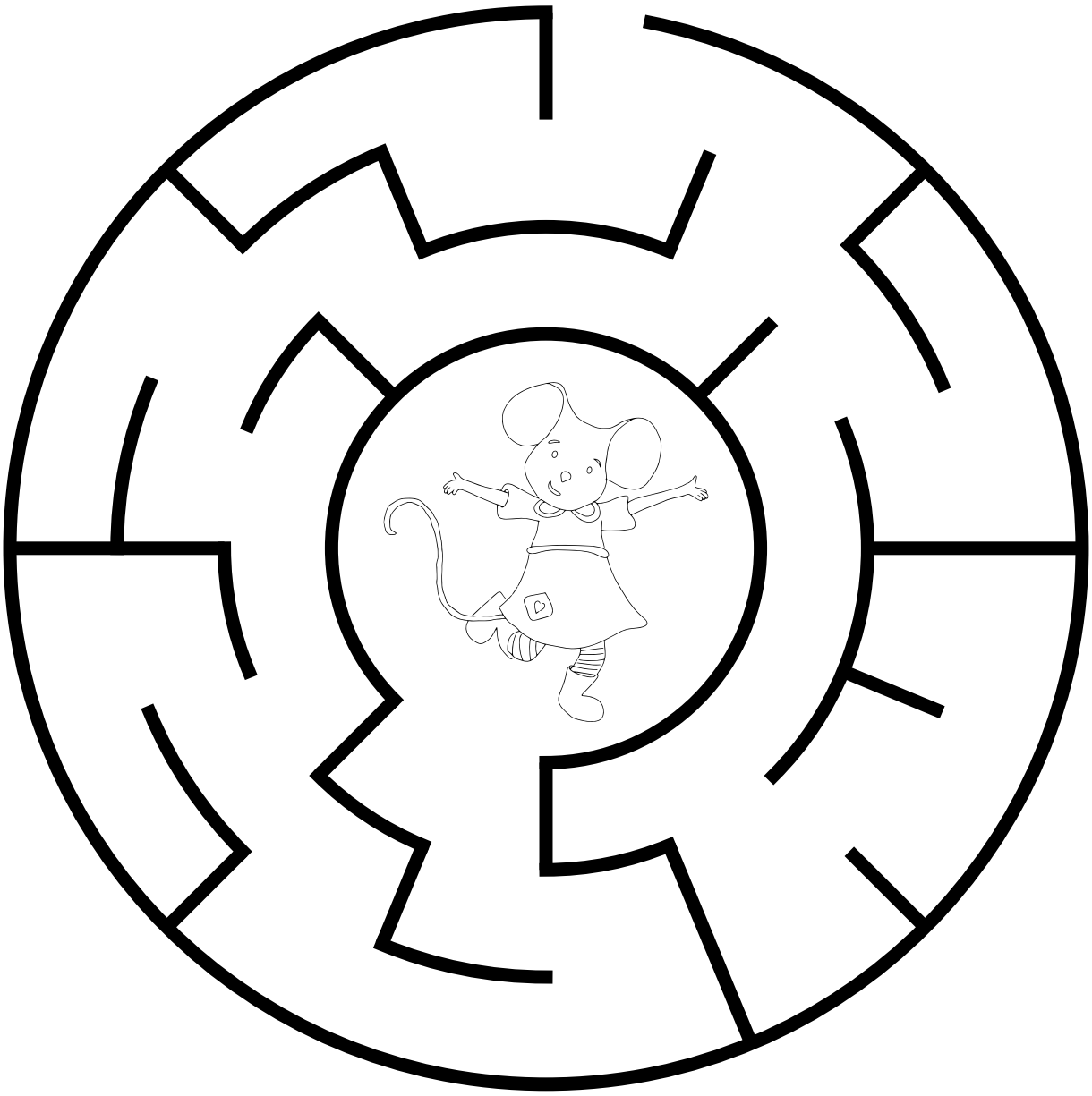
S B W A R M H
W P N E R W A
L V E O L E P
O M J C M Q P
V A D P I G Y
E S A F E A J
D P Z D V S L

Find the words below:

Happy Loved Safe Warm Special

Name: _____

Help Millie Find Her Hug



Illustrations © 2020 Lisa Kerr

Sometimes CAKE

Themes

Celebrations • Friendship • Emotions

Exploring the Story

Audrey and Lion celebrate the little or ordinary things with great enthusiasm. Some of the things they celebrate include colours, days of the week, food and of course, Lion. Ask the group to think of something small and ordinary that is very important to them. How would they like to celebrate it? Who would they like to share that celebration with? Do they think it is funny or odd to celebrate little or ordinary things?

Ask them to think about how they might already be celebrating the little things in their own lives (i.e. do they high five when they win a game? Do they shout "YES!" when the school bell rings at the end of the day? Do they jump excitedly when they know they are having their favourite food for dinner? Do they have a birthday celebration for their pets?)

Audrey and Lion love to celebrate. Discuss with the group some of the things that Lion and Audrey do to celebrate. What do they make (decorations, hats, cake)? What do they do (dance, play music and games)? Are these things that occur at regular celebrations such as birthdays, new years, Diwali or Christmas? What are some other things that occur at celebrations (parades, costumes, floats, fireworks)? Ask the group, if they were planning a celebration for Lion and Audrey, what is the most important thing they would want to include?

Activity Sheets

Group Celebration Scene

Draw a picture of yourself at a celebration. Think about what clothing you might wear, what accessories you might like to put on (A hat? Some special glasses? Ribbons or wings or a tail?) and how you might be celebrating (Are you dancing? Cheering? Laughing? Turning a somersault?)

When you have finished, carefully cut around your picture. On a large piece of paper or card, stick on everyone's celebration pictures and using items such as coloured paper and bits of ribbon or string, make decorations for your celebration scene (balloons, bunting, confetti) and glue them onto the paper/card. Be sure to include Lion and Audrey and think of what kind of cake Lion should make.

Design your own celebration Hat

Using the attached template and materials such as ribbons, pom poms, and coloured paper, design a hat that you would wear to a celebration with your friends, Lion and Audrey. Think about what colours you want to celebrate with. To extend the activity, you might like to try making your designs into real celebration hats.

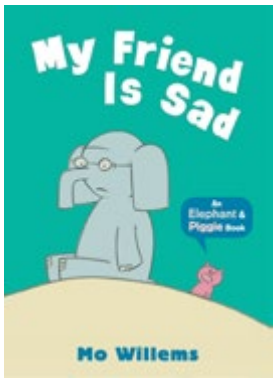
Make Your Own (environmentally friendly) Confetti Jar

You will need to gather a clean clear plastic jar from the recycling, a hole punch and/or scrapbook shape press, and petals and leaves from the garden - the more different shades and colours you can find, the better.

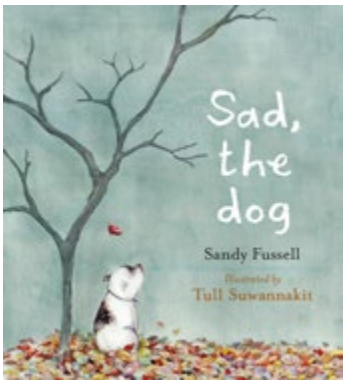
Make sure the leaves and petals are a little bit dried out but not so much that they are crunchy. Using the hole punch and/or scrapbook shape press, carefully press out shapes from your leaves and petals. Alternatively, you can just cut them into little pieces with a pair of scissors. Put all the pieces into the clean plastic jar as you go. When you are finished, put the lid on and shake the confetti to mix.

Decide as a group what little thing you wish to celebrate and then go outside, open your jars and celebrate just like Lion and Audrey do. Alternatively, have each child declare what they are celebrating before they open their jar and rain the confetti.

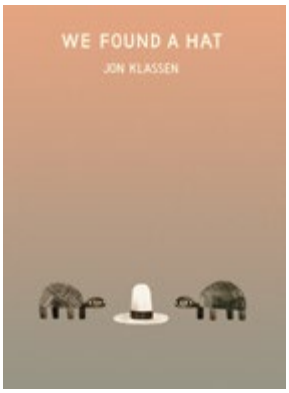
Related Titles



My Friend Is Sad
Mo Willems
9781406338478



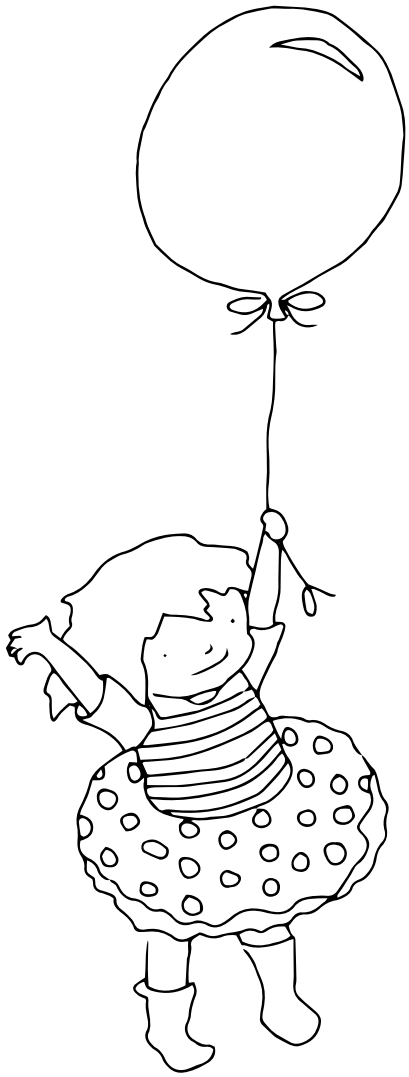
Sad, the Dog
Sandy Fussell &
Tull Suwannakit
9781921529641

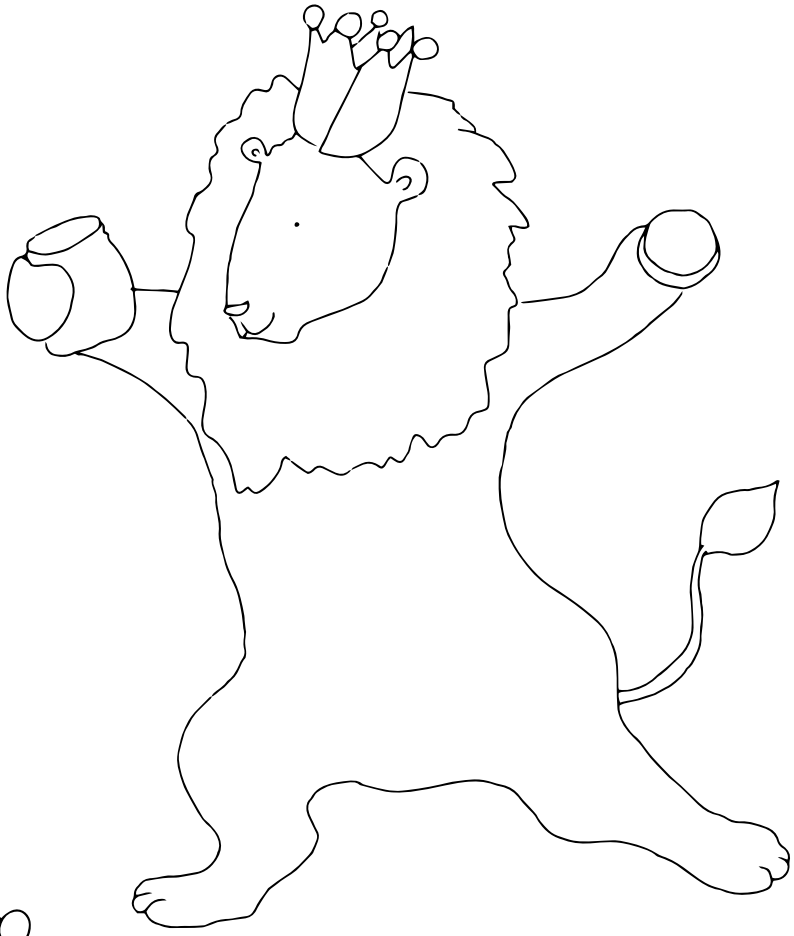


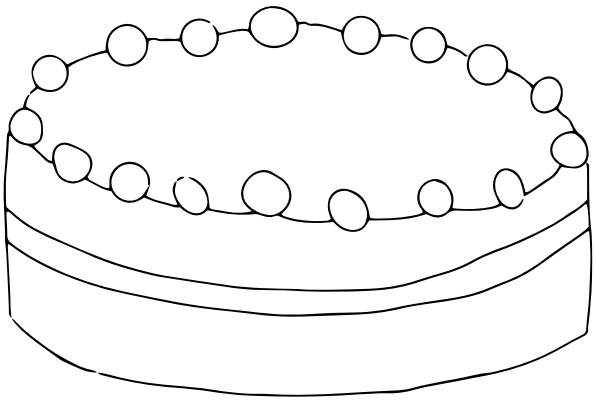
We Found a Hat
Jon Klassen
9781406347517

Name: _____

Group Celebration Scene



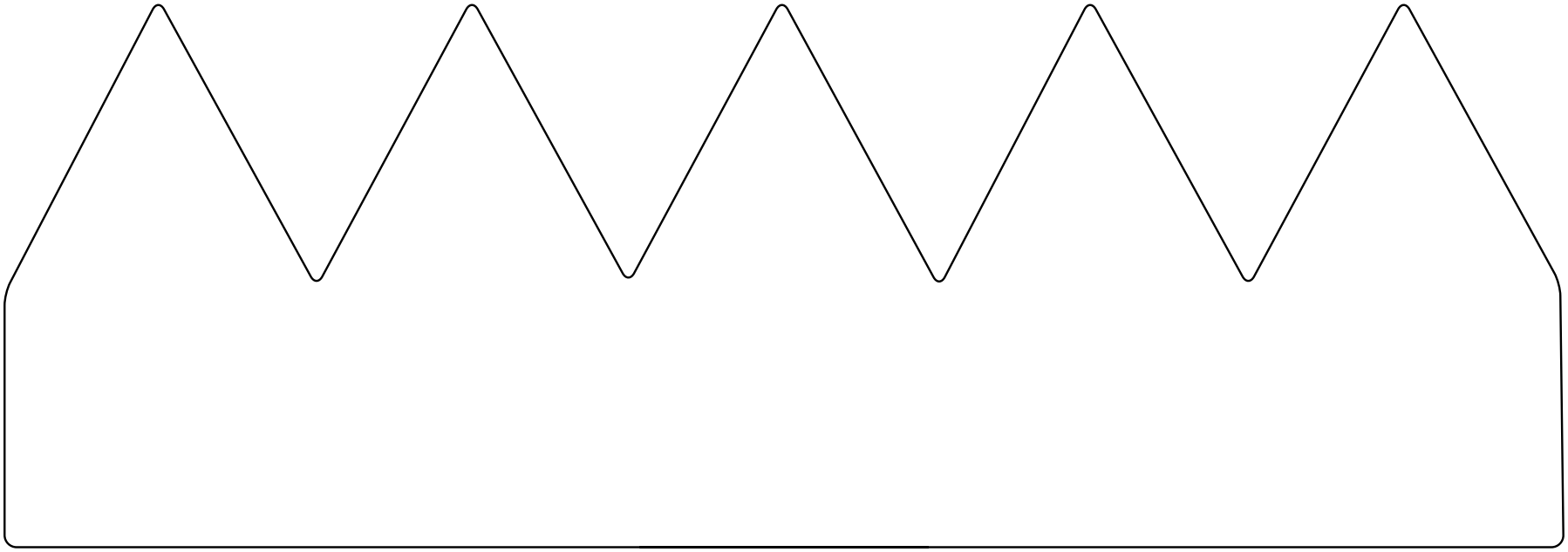




Illustrations © Tamsin Ainslie 2020

Name: _____

Design your own celebration Hat



Illustrations © Tamsin Ainslie 2020

TEN LITTLE FIGS

Themes

Counting • Fruit • Animals

Exploring the Story

Ask the group if they know what a fig is. Has anyone ever eaten one? What did it taste like and what is the texture like? Did they eat it cooked or fresh? Is it similar to anything else they have eaten before?

After you have read through the story, you may notice that each page contains a clue for the next creature to come to the fig tree. As a group, see you can you spot each clue throughout the book.

Each creature in the story is native to Australia. How many of these creatures have the children in the group seen in real life? Do they have a favourite of the creatures? Are any of the creatures dangerous to people? Were any of the creatures in the story one that they hadn't heard of before?

In pairs (or as a group for younger children) use the library resources (books and digital) to find out a little more about each creature. Where do they live? What do they eat (besides figs!)? What is something that makes this creature special? Have each pair report their findings back to the larger group or for younger groups, incorporate this information into your story time session.

On the last page it is noted that the Sandpaper Fig tree is native to Australia. What other fruit trees are native to Australia? What fruit is grown in Australia now that isn't native? Does anyone have a fruit tree in their garden or yard? What fruit is grown on it? Do they eat the fruit as is or make other things out of it?

Activity Sheets

Your Favourite Food Tree

The character in the story loves figs and wants to keep all ten for themself. If you had a tree in your backyard growing any food that you wanted, what would it be? Use the template to draw your favourite food tree. To extend the activity, use coloured paper or leaves and materials collected from outside to collage the details of your favourite food tree.

Now imagine what kind of native creatures would like to eat your favourite food too. Draw a picture of some of these creatures around your tree, they could include birds, reptiles and insects as well as mammals.

Creature Mind Map

Using the information that you researched in pairs, create a mind map for your creature. Start by drawing or painting a picture of the creature in the middle of your page and then include the information you found in branches out from the creature. The information can be written, drawn or cut out and stuck on. Be sure to give your creature a name.

Sharing is Caring

In the story, the child wants to keep all ten figs for themself, but when there is just one fig left they are happy to share it with their Daddy. Who would you share your favourite food with, even if there was only one left? Draw a picture of yourself sharing your favourite food with your favourite person.

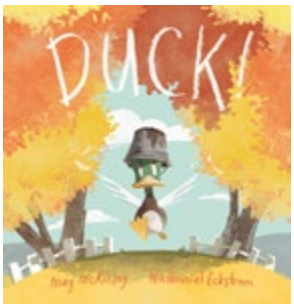
Match Creatures

Match the creatures to their description.

Related Titles

Maple the Brave
Chloe Jasmine Harris
9781925381924

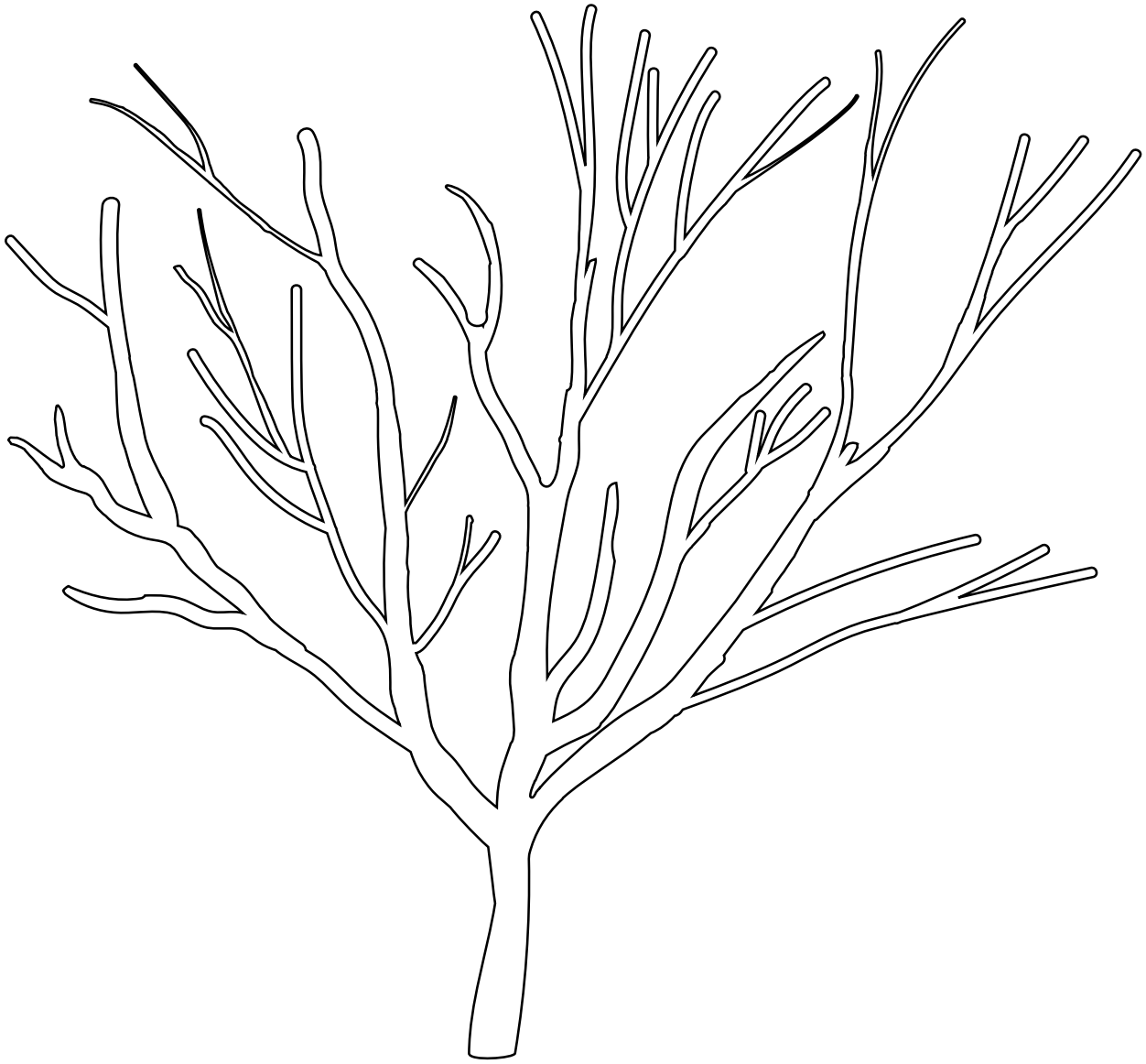
Queen Celine
Matt Shanks
9781760650346



Duck!
Meg McKinlay &
Nathaniel Eckstrom
9781925381535

Name: _____

Your Favourite Food Tree



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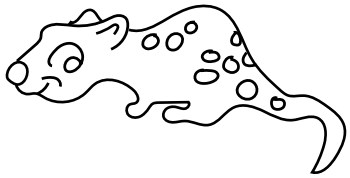
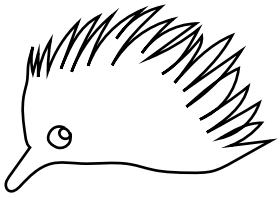
Name: _____

Match Creatures

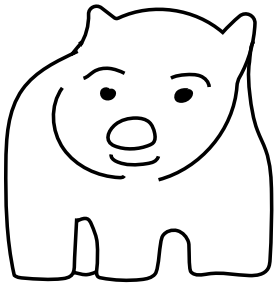


Wombats hunts for
a place to dig.

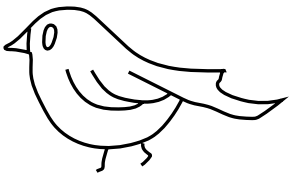
Finches hop from twig
to twig.



A flying fox dives, fast
and low.



Echidnas stops and
curls up small.



Spotted- tail quoll, eyes
bright and big.

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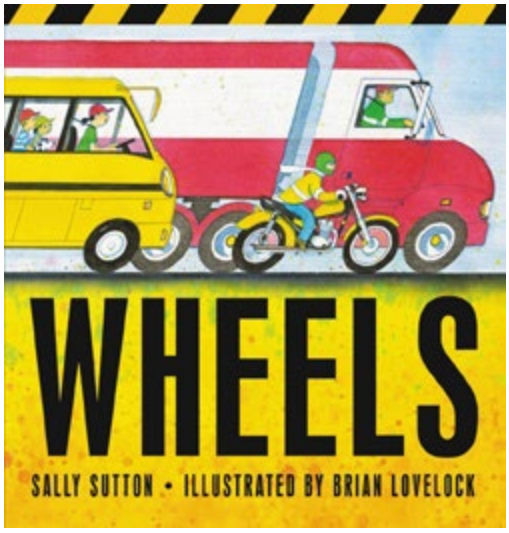
WHEELS

Themes

Excersice • Modes of transportation • Exercise Machines

Exploring the Story



Ask the group if they have seen real versions of all the vehicles featured in *Wheels*. Did they notice the different sounds that each vehicle makes? Can they demonstrate some of the sounds (i.e. motorbike, truck, fire engine)? Do they guess when they hear the sounds of each vehicle what it will be before they can see it? To extend this activity, have the group close their eyes and play audio of each vehicle sound for them to guess what it is.

Point out that all the people participating in the guessing game in the story are members of a family. Discuss with your group who the members of the family might be (mum, dad, brother, sister and dog) and what they are out doing as they come across each vehicle (bike ride, walking the dog). Have the children ever been out doing these things with their own families? Do they play games (like the vehicle guessing game) with their families as well?

There are lots of vehicles in the story being used to perform all sort of important jobs. What are some of the jobs being performed? What are the job titles of the people using the vehicles (firefighter, truck driver, bus driver, garbage collector)? Do any of the children know someone with one of these jobs? As a group, come up with names for each vehicle (i.e. Maxine Motorbike, Stanley School Bus) and imagine what kind of personalities each vehicle might have. Do you think they would be happy about doing their jobs each day?

Recycled Vehicle

Recycle a box to make your own amazing vehicle. Cut a square in the bottom of the box large enough to comfortably fit around the child and attach straps for over the shoulders. Provide a range of items for the children to cut, glue, colour, paint and otherwise decorate their vehicles. Use paper plates for wheels and steering wheel, be sure to attach with paper fasteners for the wheels to be able to turn.

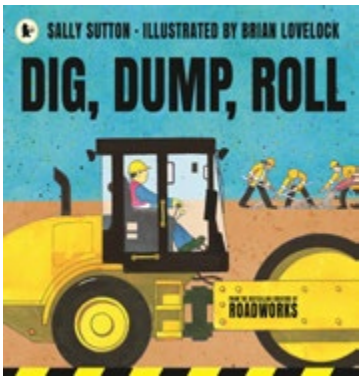
Vehicle Puppet Show

Have the children colour and cut out each vehicle from the attached template (you can laminate and cut around each shape again for longer durability). Using sticky tape, attach each vehicle to a paddle pop stick. Use your puppets to act out the *Wheels* story, play a vehicle sound guessing game, sing along to an altered version of '*Wheels on the Bus*' (i.e. the wheels on the taxi go round and round, etc.) and encourage the kids to give each of their vehicles a name.

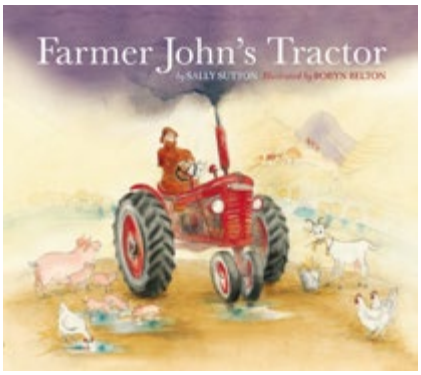
Painting Wheels

Provide a number of small toy vehicles and matchbox cars, a large sheet of paper and a range of paint colours. Have the children dip the wheels of their vehicles in the paint and push the vehicles all around the page. Encourage them to change directions and choose different paint colours. Different vehicles should also give different tire prints. Hang the finished art work or recycle it as wrapping paper or for use in other craft projects.

Related Titles



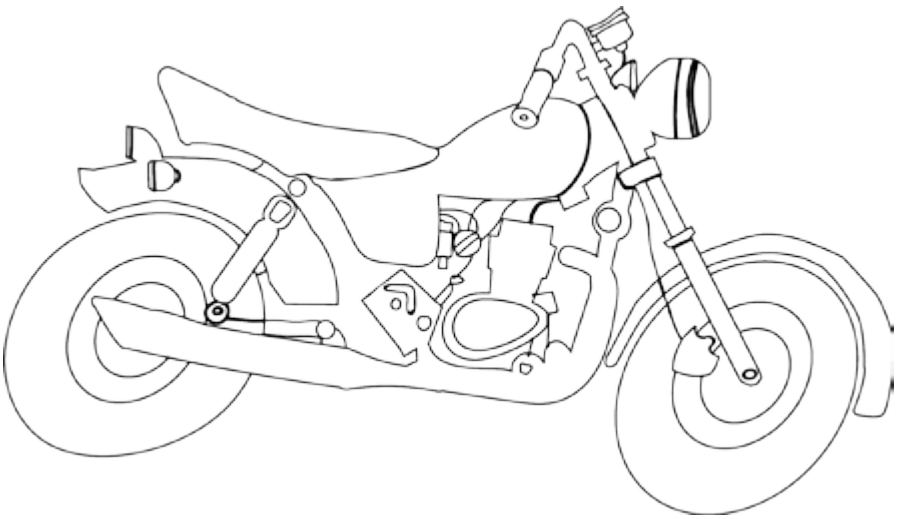
Dig, Dump, Roll
Sally Sutton &
Brian Lovelock
9781760650964

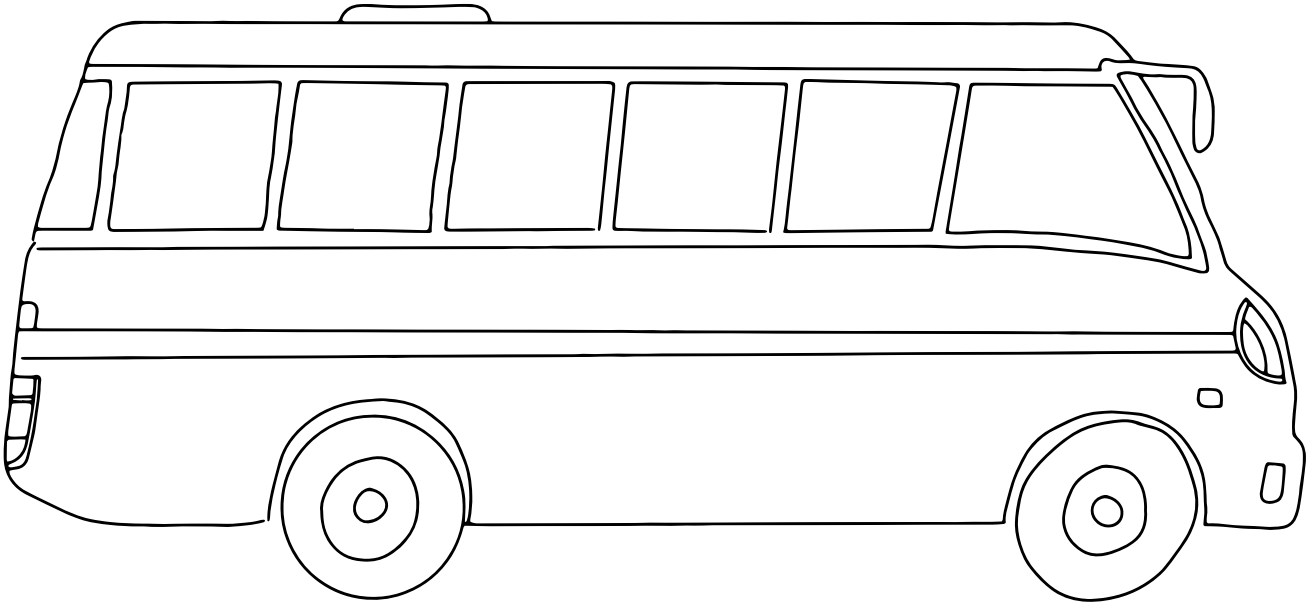


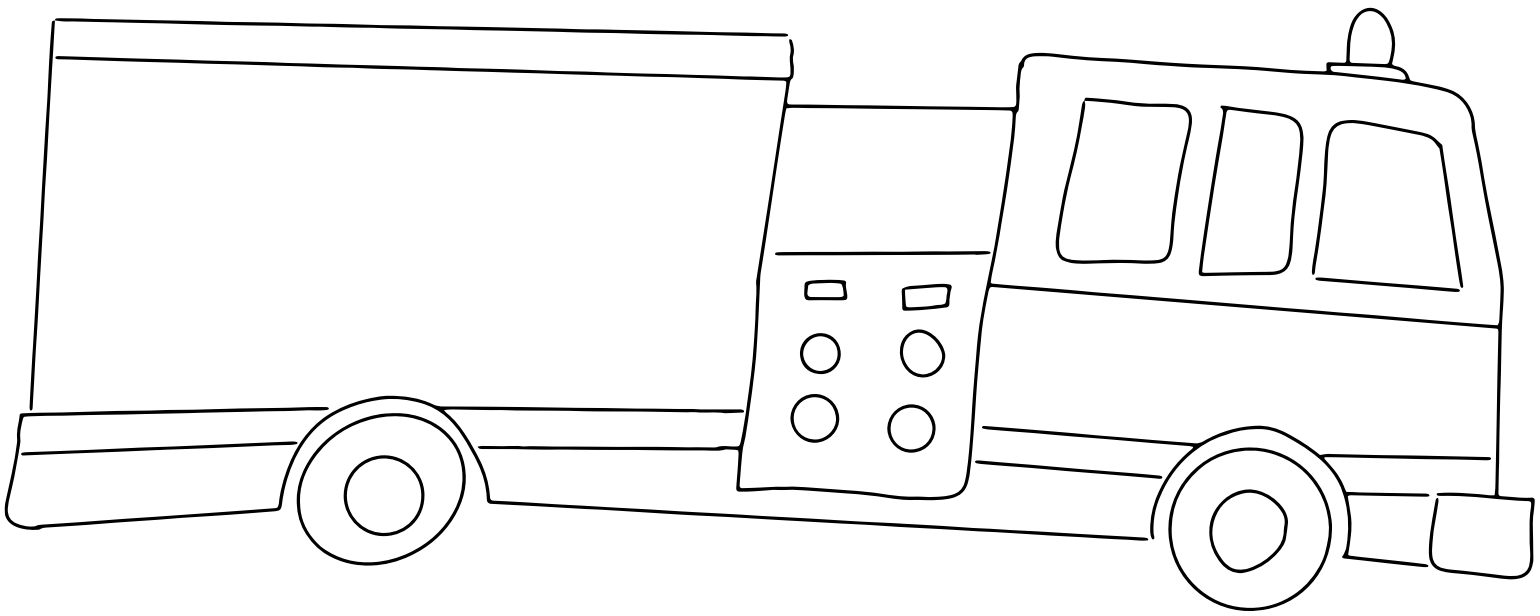
Farmer John's Tractor
Sally Sutton &
Robyn Belton
9781921150944

Name: _____

Vehicle Puppet Show







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