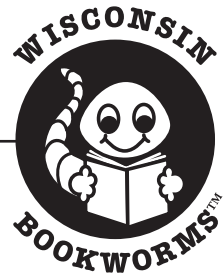


Activity Sheet



A Cat and a Dog

by Claire Masurel and Bob Kolar

A cat and a dog live in the same house, but they are not friends. They fight all the time, about everything. Then disaster strikes. Dog's beloved ball bounces up into a tree and is stuck. Cat's precious stuffed mouse falls into the pond. Dog can't climb. Cat can't swim. What are they to do?

Before you read this book: Sing "We are Good Friends" (We're good friends, we're good friends, you are my friend I am your friend, we're good friends).

After you read this book: Do a picture walk! Have each child create his or her own story for the book by "reading" the book to a peer based solely on the images. This is a great tool for developing literacy skills.

After you read this book: Start a weekly kindness chart in the classroom. Kids can share kind acts they witness their peers doing and teachers can recognize acts by putting a marker on chart. When 10 kind acts have been observed, kids get a celebration such as a favorite song is played, they receive stickers, or they get to go on a "nature walk" outside.

Try this at home: As you read, intentionally touch each word as you say the name to help bridge the connection between the words and sounds. (This is a great activity for students who are emergent bilingual!)

Additional activities: Read *Moody Cow* by Kerry Lee MacLean. Parents could create a Mind Jar as a tool for calming a child who is frustrated, angry, or stressed.

Mind Jar instructions: Combine 1/4 cup glycerin, 3/4 cup hot water, 1 tsp silver glitter, 2 tsp salt, and 3–4 drops dish soap in a water bottle. When you shake the bottle, the pieces of glitter (like your thoughts) are everywhere. As the glitter settles, so do your thoughts. With this recipe, the glitter takes about two minutes to settle.

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