

I DON'T WANT TO BE A FROG

STORYTIME ACTIVITIES

Little Frog doesn't want to be a frog. He wants to be a cat or a rabbit or a pig, anything but . . . himself. Soon he learns that being a frog is pretty terrific, mostly because it means a great big wolf doesn't want to eat him.



BEFORE YOU READ:

Ask storytime listeners to think about themselves. Ask: Have you ever felt like you didn't want to be yourself? Did you wish your hair was curlier? Or you were taller? Or you could jump higher or run faster? But you know what? Being you is pretty terrific!



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

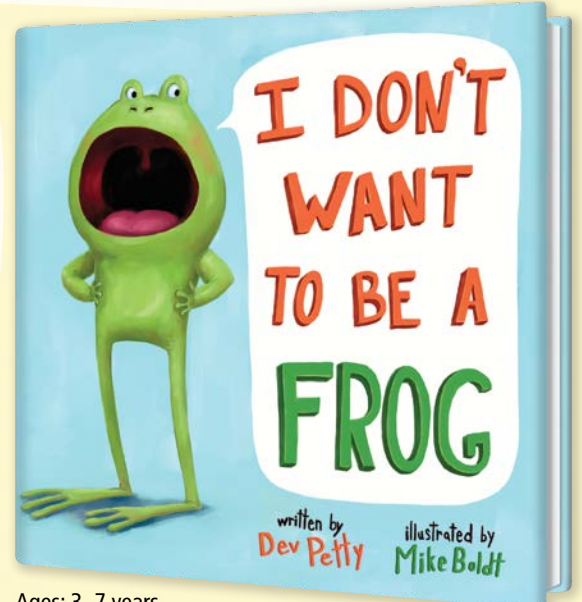
What are some things that make you feel good about yourself?

What sort of things do people say that make you feel good?

How do you feel when someone says something nice about you?

Do you ever try to say nice things to other people to help them feel good? What do you say?

Keep these thoughts in mind as you begin *I Don't Want to Be a Frog*.



Ages: 3–7 years
Grades: Preschool–2
HC: 978-0-385-37866-6
GLB: 978-0-375-97334-5

STORYTIME ACTIVITIES AND CRAFTS

MY BOOK ABOUT ME

Help your storytime listeners make their own books to celebrate loving themselves.



DRAW

a self-portrait and fill in what you look like, where you live, and what you like.



I have _____ eyes
and _____ hair.

My birthday is _____,
and I am _____ years old.

I write with my left or right hand.
(circle one)

I have _____ people in my family.

Their names are _____

My favorite thing to do is _____.

My favorite color is _____.

My favorite food is _____.

I am very good at _____.



STORYTIME ACTIVITIES AND CRAFTS

CREATE YOUR OWN ME BAGS

There's no better way to learn something new about a friend or classmate than by finding out about their favorite things.

Have your storytime listeners create their own "Me Bag." Decorate a brown paper lunch bag and fill it with three favorite items from home. For example, a book, a wooden spoon, and a map. Let the kids ask questions about each item, and they will learn that the person who owns this "Me Bag" loves to read, cook (and eat!), and travel.

Instructions:

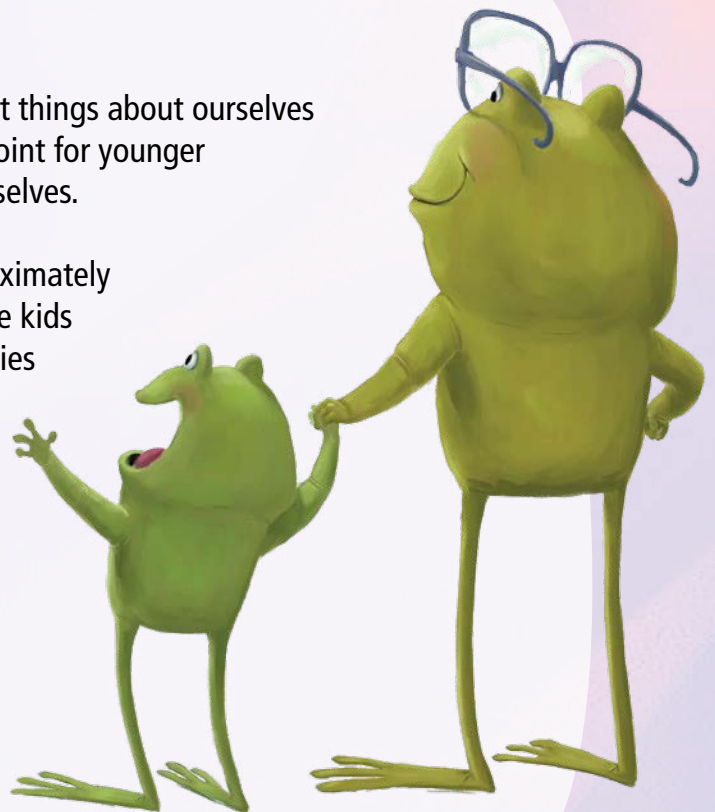
Hand out brown paper lunch bags. Set out assorted craft supplies, like beads, glue, markers, stickers, glitter, etc., and let storytime listeners decorate their "Me Bag" any way they like. Tell your storytime listeners to fill their bags with three favorite things from home. The next time you meet, have everyone put their "Me Bag" in the center of the circle and go through the bags one at a time. As you take out each of the three items in the bag, try to guess who the bag belongs to. Kids will love seeing if their favorites overlap with anyone else's favorites.

LIFE-SIZE DRAWINGS

We all know that there are many more important things about ourselves than how we look, but it's a good jumping-off point for younger readers to talk about what they like about themselves.

Instructions:

Cut out sheets of very wide butcher paper approximately 4 feet long (or taller than your tallest child). Have kids pair up and trace the outline of each other's bodies on the butcher paper using a pencil. After the outlines are done, let each child color in their outline, filling in their hair color, eye color, and what they are wearing. They can also include things like sports equipment or books or anything else to represent their hobbies. Next, they should ask their partner for help filling in things about themselves that they might not see on their own. Take turns sharing what the children see in themselves and what their partners see in them.



STORYTIME ACTIVITIES AND CRAFTS

ME TREE

Help your storytime listeners understand that your talents are things you are good at. You can be good at a sport or a musical instrument, but also good at making your bed or making people laugh or cooking scrambled eggs. Having talents can make you feel good about yourself and who you are.



Instructions:

Photocopy the leaf template below. Pre-cut the templates for younger listeners, or have the kids cut them on their own. Encourage them to write down a talent in the center of the leaf or draw a picture of their talent if they cannot write yet. Draw or use construction paper to make the outline of a tree trunk and branches on a bulletin board or blank wall and help listeners affix their leaves to the branches. When everyone is finished, you have created a "Me Tree." Encourage the kids to talk about their talents and about what makes them special. Be mindful to help those kids who may be shy or need assistance to think of less obvious (but no less important!) talents.

SONGS AND RHYMES

FOR AFTER STORYTIME

Sing "If You're Happy and You Know It," but swap out happy for adjectives like **brave**, **strong**, **friendly**, or **funny**. Readers can clap their hands when they feel these different adjectives.

If you're happy and you know it
clap your hands.

If you're happy and you know it
clap your hands.

If you're happy and you know it,
and you really want to show it,

If you're happy and you know it
clap your hands!





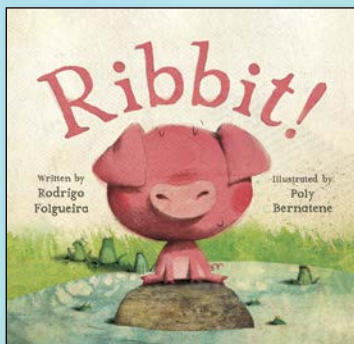
ABOUT THE AUTHOR: After graduating from UC Santa Cruz, **Dev Petty** became a senior visual-effects artist in the film industry. Her work appears in the Matrix trilogy and dozens of other movies. She later left film to raise a family, but continues to draw, paint, and teach the visual arts while pursuing her passion for storytelling. Dev was born and raised in Berkeley and now lives right next door in Albany, California, with her husband, two daughters, some dogs, and other furry critters.



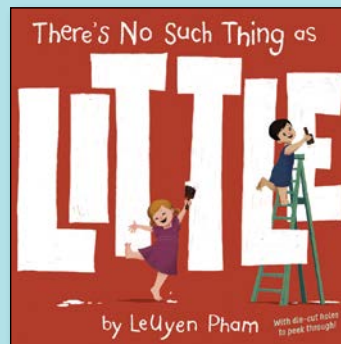
ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR: **Mike Boldt** is an author and illustrator living in the countryside of Alberta, Canada. He has been illustrating for children for the past fourteen years. When he's not drawing, he's building snow forts and Lego spaceships with his three kids or sharing laughs and his ice cream with his wife. He is very glad he's not a frog.

MORE GREAT READS

LOVE YOURSELF



by Rodrigo Folgueira
illustrated by Poly Bernatene
Ages: 2–5
Grades: Up to Kindergarten
HC: 978-0-307-98146-2
GLB: 978-0-307-98147-9
EPUB: 978-0-307-98150-9



by LeUyen Pham
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Grades: Preschool–2
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GLB: 978-0-385-39151-1
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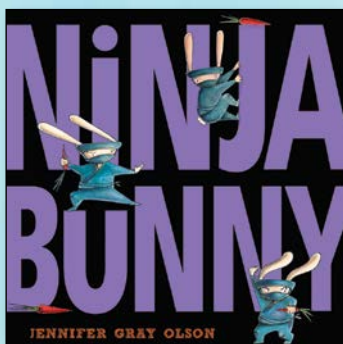


by David Small
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GLB: 978-0-375-91048-7
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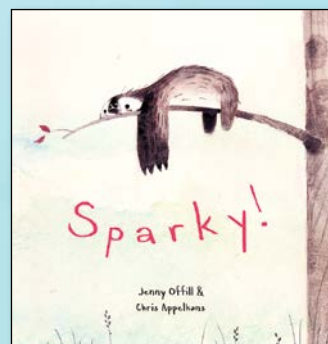


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Ages: 3–7
Grades: Preschool–2
HC: 978-0-375-86721-7
GLB: 978-0-375-96721-4
EPUB: 978-0-375-98459-4

GOOFY ANIMALS



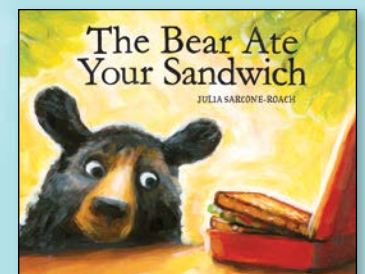
by Jennifer Gray Olson
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Grades: Preschool–2
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Grades: Preschool–3
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GLB: 978-0-375-97023-8
EPUB: 978-0-375-98859-2



by Amy Krouse Rosenthal
illustrated by Brigette Barrager
Ages: 4–8
Grades: Preschool–3
HC: 978-0-385-37555-9
GLB: 978-0-375-97206-5
EPUB: 978-0-375-98208-8



by Julia Sarcone-Roach
Ages: 3–7
Grades: Preschool–2
HC: 978-0-375-85860-4
GLB: 978-0-375-95860-1
EPUB: 978-03-07-98242-1