May I Bring A Friend?
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Illustrated by Beni Montresor

A Study Guide
Written by Garrett Christopher
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For the Teacher

This reproducible Little Novel-Ties study guide consists of activities to use in conjunction with the book *May I Bring a Friend?*. The picture book and its corresponding guide can become an important element in your whole language reading program. The guide contains a synopsis; background information on the author and illustrator; suggested pre-reading activities; exercises that focus on vocabulary; visual literacy, story comprehension, and critical thinking skills; and extension activities that link the story to other curriculum areas.

Suggestions For Using Activities

Pre-Reading Activities – Before You Read

These activities are designed to activate children’s prior knowledge and build concepts or background information. They will motivate children to read and help them to understand the story better. Children can discuss answers to the questions with a partner, in a small cooperative learning group, or with the entire class.

Word Study – Rhyme Time

Children read riddles and use rhyming words as well as definition clues to help them identify new words.

Understanding the Story – Story Questions, Picture Questions

The story questions include a number of literal, inferential, and evaluative questions that help children focus on major story elements. The picture questions help children draw inferences from the illustrations.
BEFORE YOU READ

1. Read the title of the book. Then look at the picture on the cover. What can you tell about the characters in the story?

2. Look at the pictures in the book. Is this a real or a make-believe story? What makes you think this?

3. In this story, everyone is very polite. Think of words that you use when you are trying to be polite. Make a list. Compare it with a friend’s list. Circle any words that appear on both lists.

4. In this story, the boy asks if he can bring a friend to visit. Draw a picture of a friend you would like to take along if you were asked to visit.
STORY QUESTIONS

1. Who invites the boy to come for tea? When and where is he invited to come?

2. What favor does the boy ask? What does the King say?

3. What unusual friend does the boy bring for tea? Do you think the King and Queen are surprised? Why?

4. How do the King, Queen, and their guests act at the tea party?

5. What happens on Monday? What do the story characters say and do?

6. Who do you think was the strangest guest? Why do you think this?

7. This story follows a pattern. What is the pattern in this story? How does this pattern help you to guess what will happen next?

8. What is the one thing each day that you cannot guess from the story pattern? Why do you think the author keeps it a surprise?

9. What happens when the King and Queen invite the boy for tea on Saturday? Where do you think the friends live?

10. Pretend you are the boy. What friends would you bring?