

Snowy's Rescue

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Here are some writing and drawing activities inspired by my picture book 'Snowy's Rescue'. The activities are designed for young children. If the children are not old enough to write, many of these exercises use drawing or mime.

Blurb: Friends come in all shapes and sizes. They look and sound different. But there is something they have in common, as Finn, Snowy and their neighbours find out.
A warm story about friendship and co-operation.

Listening

Read 'Snowy's Rescue' without the children looking at the pictures.

Writing and Drawing

Ask the children to draw one of these three characters (still without having seen the inside illustrations):

Mrs North

Hassan the house painter

Rosa, the young woman

Show the illustrations. Ask the children to write or talk about (depending on their age and capabilities) the difference between what they imagined and what is on the page.

Get the children to look at the characters' hands and spot the difference between their own hands and the ones in the pictures. Can the children guess why they are different?

What can we tell about Finn by looking at his picture?

Each child might like to write a story about a pet, or draw a picture.

How many other words can the children make from the title of the book 'Snowy's Rescue'? (eg. Rose, we ...).
Count how many words are listed.

Themes

Discuss – What is a friend?

Are there things a friend would not do?

How did the old lady, Mrs North, change in the story?

How are the people in the story the same – and different?

Ask the children to draw a picture of their own best friend.

Can they think of other picture books that are about friends?

Snowy is a cat. Perhaps the children could either talk about or write three things they know about cats.

Why do people like pets?

Do pets like people, and why?

Remembering

Read the story again, then ask the children to list the ways the neighbours in the story tried to help Snowy down from the tree.
Count the number of ways.

Drama

Ask the children to mine the meaning of these words from 'Snowy's Rescue', without saying them aloud:

Top Jump Climbed Hurried Poured Weeding
 Threw Peering Barked surprise
Stretched Down Angry Caught Scratched

Then read the story aloud again, with the children repeating each mime as they recognise the words.