

Teacher's Guide

Dear Reader/Educator/Parent

I wanted to give you a little background and summary about our book series -*The Adventures of Bug and Boo*. Enjoy and share with others!

My first book, *The Adventures of Bug and Boo- Under the Sea*, is a magical tale about two siblings and their amazing adventures. Bug is a little girl that uses a wheelchair, but when her brother takes her on adventures she is able to do things her body doesn't typically allow. Though the books are fun, creative, and engaging, the discussion you have with your class after reading the book will be **equally, if not more important**. It is important to discuss how no two people do things the same and how we need, and should, include everyone. Many times, children see a child that does things differently than them and they are confused and sometimes afraid. Discussing all kids, all needs, and all hopes and dreams is a crucial lesson. All kids can be a part of making others' dreams come true and we need to start this conversation at a young age so that it becomes the "new normal" in our society. In this guide I will provide different tools in which to have this conversation. However, feel free to expand, elaborate and make the discussion your own to fit your classroom dynamic and population.

Why This Guide Exists...

Hannah's Story

Hannah was born with a rare disease called Rett Syndrome. It is a mutation on one of her chromosomes and affects every single aspect of her life. She is not able to speak, use her hands, or walk independently. She does understand everything and has the most incredible joy. After observing many kids around her and in her life, I realized how important it was for her not to only feel included, but for me to talk to kids about Hannah and why she uses a wheelchair, why she uses a device to talk, and why she verbalizes a lot of emotion through her eyes and sounds. It is important to explain to other kids that Hannah and many kids are just like them, but daily activities may need to be adapted to suit their needs. Kids are curious and learn by asking questions. We need to educate them and answer their questions so they will be knowledgeable and comfortable with everyone. I am not an expert, but I have written the Teacher's guide and series based on my own experience as a mother who has a child with special needs and as a former Elementary School Teacher. I welcome input, feedback, and suggestions because I believe that this tool can become even more beneficial with multiple views and experiences. Please adapt this to fit your classroom and stay tuned for the next book!

Sample Script

Adapt as needed...

I have various ways of explaining Hannah's disease to people. When it comes to children, I use words and situations that they understand. I know every situation and child is different, but maybe some of this will help or give you ideas when explaining to your students.

Hannah was born with a disease called Rett Syndrome. Rett Syndrome isn't contagious, but is something she will have her whole life. Hannah understands everything. She likes the same cartoons and toys you like, but she cannot use words to talk about them. She is really good at using her eyes, smile, and her talker (AAC device) to make choices and show her feelings about someone or something. Because of Rett Syndrome her body doesn't allow her to do certain things that you may do. They are conducting research for treatments that will help her and make her better, but in the meantime we have to try different things and different ways to talk, play, and help Hannah. She loves being around and playing with other kids. She really loves having her friends help her do things and loves when they read to her, talk to her, and include her when playing games.

Comprehension Questions

1.) Who is the narrator?

Answer: Boo

2.) Where does the story take place (setting)?

Answer: In their home at the beginning and end, but in the ocean during the middle.

3.) What do they not want mom to find out?

Answer: That they leave their home and go on adventures.

4.) What is your favorite part of the story? Why?

5.) How can you help include everyone?

Suggestions: You can invite someone to play who is not playing to play with you. Different kids have different abilities, so adapt some of your playtime, toys, and games, so that they can be included. Talk to everyone the same and always use kind words.

6.) What does Bug use to help her get around?

Answer: She uses a wheelchair. Many people use many different devices or equipment to help them move and get around.

7.) How do you think Bug feels about going on adventures with her brother?

8.) How do you think Boo feels about taking his sister on amazing adventures?

Extension Activities

There are many ways that you can get involved in your community, classroom, school, and neighborhood. Here are a few ideas to get you started...

CLASSROOM

- Adapt a game, toy, or activity so that everyone can participate.
- If you see a classmate or student that needs help, step in and help them.
- Help arrange a day that raises awareness for a disease or a special cause.

COMMUNITY

- Volunteer to help at the Special Olympics held in your city.
- Volunteer at an organization that raises funds and awareness.
- Help a neighbor, friend, family member, or classmate with some chores or tasks around their house.
- Volunteer to help with transportation to get ALL community members involved. (An adult will need to help with this.)

MOST IMPORTANTLY...

SPREAD LOVE AND KINDESS, SO THAT OTHERS CAN LEARN FROM YOU!

NAME: _____

Story Map

Title

Characters

Beginning

Middle

End

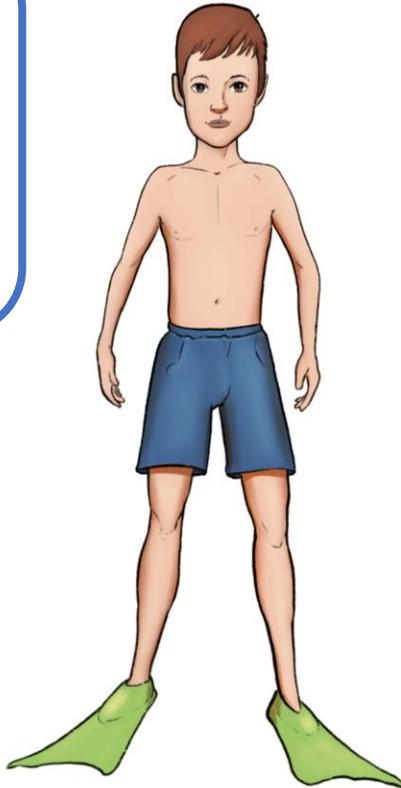


NAME: _____

Date: _____

Character Traits

* Write a trait inside the box and discuss examples found in the story.



NAME: _____ Date: _____

Character Traits

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NAME: _____ DATE: _____

The Adventures of Bug and Boo

Draw a picture of you **helping another person.**



Write a sentence about your picture.

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

The Adventures of Bug and Boo

Draw a picture of your favorite part of the story.



Write a sentence about your picture.
