

# THE PIGEON FINDS A HOT DOG!

## HOW DO DINOSAURS GO TO SCHOOL?

by Mo Willems

Ages: 2-6; Grades: PreK-1

Themes: Problem Solving, Sharing, Humor

Running Time: 6 minutes

## SUMMARY

The feisty pigeon from *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus* is back, and this time he's found a hot dog. He is very excited about biting into this tasty treat, until a pesky little duckling comes around. Before he knows it, the pigeon is doing everything in his power to prevent the duckling from getting his hot dog. But, the duckling's persuasive powers prevail and the pigeon finally comes up with a solution that makes everyone happy.

## OBJECTIVES

- Students will brainstorm and practice ways to share.
- Students will describe and draw their favorite foods.

## BEFORE VIEWING ACTIVITIES

Have students share what their favorite foods are. Make a list of each child's name and his or her favorite food. Then, have students draw a picture of their favorite food to display next to their names. Tell students that they will be watching a movie about a pigeon who finds one of his favorite foods, but encounters a problem when a pesky duckling wants the food as well. Encourage students to watch and listen for how the pigeon solves the problem.

Discuss sharing with students. Guiding questions:

- Why is sharing important?
- How does sharing help others?
- Have there ever been times when you didn't want to share? What happened?

- Why is sharing hard sometimes?
- What are some ways that we can share better in our classroom?

Write down the students' ideas on chart paper. Tell students that they are going to watch a movie about a pigeon who doesn't want to share. Revisit the ideas that students brainstormed after watching the movie to see if they have any ideas to add and to facilitate sharing practice.

## AFTER VIEWING ACTIVITIES

Revisit the sharing discussion from the Before Viewing Activities. Ask students if they've ever felt like the pigeon and not wanted to share. Then, invite students to bring in something that is special to them to share with the class. Tell students that whatever they bring in, the class will be able to use or play with for the day. Discuss with students guidelines for sharing and using other people's property. Come up with a list together. On the day of the sharing, remind students of the guidelines that the class developed. Set up a system in the classroom for sharing, such as rotating centers where the children are able to play with and experience everything that was brought in to share.

Use the illustrations that the children drew in the Before Viewing Activity to put together a book. Brainstorm descriptive words that students can use to describe their favorite foods. Focus on the five senses and help students think of ways that their favorite foods look, smell, taste, feel, and maybe even make noises. Older children can write their own sentences to go with their illustrations, while younger children will need a teacher to scribe their words. Students can make covers and title pages for their books and they can be added to the class library for others to read.

Have a hot dog party. Ask parents to contribute a package of hot dogs, veggie hot dogs, buns, and condiments. Use a hot plate or borrowed grill to cook them. Have students make invitations for their parents and other family members. Provide cut out shapes that they can use to glue together pictures of the pigeon and duckling on the invitation. When the big day comes, read the book or re-watch the movie, *The Pigeon Finds a Hot Dog*.

## OTHER TITLES BY/ABOUT MO WILLEMS FROM WESTON WOODS:

*Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!*

*Knuffle Bunny*

*Knuffle Bunny Too*

*Leonardo, the Terrible Monster*

*Getting to Know Mo Willems*, a documentary

## OTHER RELATED TITLES FROM WESTON WOODS:

*Arnie the Doughnut*, by Laurie Keller

*Do Unto Otters (A Book about Manners)*, by Laurie Keller

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In the previous Pigeon book, author and illustrator Willems expertly distilled the escalating emotions of preschoolers all too anxious to get their way. *The Pigeon Finds a Hot Dog*--also a simple and sparsely illustrated story--explores the flip side of that coin, exposing the poker-face persuasive powers of young negotiators. The pigeon just wants to greedily eat the hot dog that he's found: "Ooooooh! A hot dog! Yummy! Yummy! Yummy!" Then along comes the duckling, "scooty scoot scoot!" with his insistent questions about hot dogs: "What do they taste like?...Would y When The Pigeon finds a delicious hot dog, he can hardly wait to shove the entire thing in his beak. But . . . then a very sly and hungry duckling enters the scene and wants a bite. Who will be the more clever bird? In this hilarious follow-up to Caldecott Honor winning *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!* Mo Willems has created another avian adventure that encourages kids to share even their most prized processed foods. Buy Now. The pigeon is about to eat the hot dog he's found, when a sly, persevering, small yellow duckling "scooty scoot scoots" up with a series of questions and comments. Willems again expertly captures the personality and emotions of the droll pigeon ("not a hot dog; my hot dog") and the "guest star" duckling, who manages to trick the pigeon into giving him what he wants, taking notes about the taste of a hot dog. "Each morsel is a joy! A celebration in a bun!" says Pigeon. "Does it taste like chicken?" asks the winsome duck. Another tantrum ensues, but the hot dog is split and shared. Duckling tops