Mouse and Mole series

Happy Days for Mouse and Mole

Author: Joyce Dunbar
Illustrator: James Mayhew
Age: 5-7
Format: Hardback
Size: 200 x 250mm
Price: £12.99

Author and illustrator’s websites:
www.joycedunbar.com
www.jamesmayhew.co.uk

Front cover
Discussion
Who is the author?
What does an author do?
Who is the illustrator?
Where are Mouse and Mole?
What are Mouse and Mole doing on the cover?
Are they happy?

Activities
Try to make a seat for some toys indoors or outdoors.
Where is your favourite place in school? At home?
Why do you like that place?
Create postcards of your favourite places and display them or make a book.

Inside spread
Discussion
Who has a picture like this at home?
Do we have paintings or pictures on our walls now?
What do we have?

Activities
Recreate the two portraits by dressing up and taking photographs.
**Dedication/contents**

**Discussion**
- Can you see Mouse and Mole sitting next to the tree?
- What are they doing?
- What does it have carved on it?

This book is dedicated to Alison.

**What are the titles of the stories in this book?**

**On which page can we find the Spectacles story?**

**Activities**

Hearts – create patterns using hearts.

Make a heart mobile – I love...

Collect objects in a box, then write a contents list to place on the top.

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**Pages 5-13 – ‘The Hammock’**

**Interesting words**

- Hammock
- Breeze
- Dizzy
- Clambered
- Comfortable
- Awful
- Perfect
- Astonished

**Discussion**

- Have you seen or been in a hammock? What did it feel like?
- What time of year is it? How do you know? What are the clues?

- Will a net make a good hammock?
- What was Mouse going to do in his hammock?
- Why do you think Mole wanted to stop Mouse? (p7)
- Was Mole being nice to Mouse?
- What can you see in the garden? (p10-11)
- Can you see Mole lying in the hammock?
- Should he be eating?
- What happened to Mole?
- Was Mouse happy in the end?

**Activities**

- Draw or paint summer pictures – go on a nature walk and gather natural objects to create a 3D summer picture when you return.
- What are the things you enjoy about the summer? Make a circle display of spring, summer, autumn and winter objects and artefacts.
- Make some cookies and lemonade to sell.
- Go outdoors, lie on the grass and listen. What can you hear?
- What can you see in the sky? Are there shapes in the clouds?
Pages 14-22 – ‘Spectacles’

Interesting words
- Groped
- Peered
- Dimly
- Blearily
- Crowned
- Twirling
- Imagine
- Exclaimed
- Scrabbled

Discussion
How many pairs of spectacles do you see?
Which one of the friends is the neat one and which is the messy one?
Where did Mouse find all the pairs of spectacles?
How many pairs of spectacles is Mole wearing now? (p17)
How is Mouse feeling?
Where did Mouse find the correct pair of glasses?
Where would you look if you had lost your glasses or your favourite toy?
Where were all the glasses Mole was looking for?

Activities
- Play hide and seek.
- Play a miming mirror game – pairs mirror movements & facial expressions.
- Make & decorate fun spectacle frames to wear to a seeing party.
- Sing songs eg head, shoulders knees & toes.
- Play I spy games.

Pages 23-32 – ‘Catch a Falling Leaf’

Interesting words
- Misty
- Flurry
- Scientific
- Pirouette
- Stumbled
- Clutched

Discussion
What time of year is it?
What was Mouse doing? What else can you see in the picture?
Do you like this picture? How does it make you feel? (p24 – 25)
Did they manage to catch any leaves at first?
Mouse and Mole decide to make a plan. What happened to Mole?
Can you see Mouse helping Mole? (p31)
Activities
Collect leaves and make characters out of them.
Order leaves from the smallest to the biggest.
Create a leaf picture in the style of Andy Goldsworthy.
Go on a leaf hunt, recording the different leaves you see/find, and learn the names of the trees.

Back cover
Discussion
What can you spot on the back cover?
Can you remember what was happening in the book when these pictures appeared?
There is a barcode on the book – what is it for?
What else does it tell us on the book?

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A Very Special Mouse and Mole
ISBN 9781912050987
Happy Days for Mouse and Mole
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