Will You Be Mine?

An Activity Guide

Developed by Charlesbridge
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In this charming story told through Mother Goose rhymes both familiar and unfamiliar, a dapper cat and a demure dog meet, fall in love, wed, and honeymoon to London to meet the queen.

Tildes’s brightly colored illustrations bring this nursery-rhyme world to life, and the timelessness of these Mother Goose rhymes will certainly appeal to readers young and old.

A lovely story of romance and happiness, this book is a great choice for Valentine’s Day.

Before reading...

Ask the children the following questions:
1) What do you think this book is about?
2) Where do you think the story takes place?
3) Who are the characters?
4) What is a rhyme?

During the reading...

Have the children tell you when they recognize one of the rhymes in the book. Ask if they can help you finish the rhyme. For example, in the following selections, you might pause before the words in bold and ask the children to finish the rhyme for you:

“This little piggy went to market;
This little piggy stayed home;
This little piggy had roast beef;
This little piggy had none;
And this little piggy went wee, wee, wee,
All the way home.”

“In this charming story told through Mother Goose rhymes both familiar and unfamiliar, a dapper cat and a demure dog meet, fall in love, wed, and honeymoon to London to meet the queen.”

“Hickory, dickory dock.
The mouse ran up the clock.
The clock struck one,
The mouse ran down.
Hickory, dickory dock.”
During the reading (cont.)...

You can also have the children help you read the story by pointing to different images throughout and asking them to fill in the rhyme with the name of the object you are pointing to. For example, in the following rhyme, you can point to the cat’s hat before saying the word:

“Hoddley, poddley, puddles and frogs,
Cats are to marry poodle dogs;
Cats in blue jackets and dogs in red hats,
What will become of the mice and the rats?”

After reading...

Mother Goose Bingo

All of the characters in Will You Be Mine? are animals. After reading the book, ask the children what animals they can remember from the story. Show them the cover of the book to help jog their memory.

Here is a list of animals that appear in the book:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>mouse</th>
<th>rooster</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>cat</td>
<td>duck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pig</td>
<td>bird</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dog</td>
<td>hedgehog</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bull</td>
<td>horse</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Once the group has named all of the animals in the book, ask them what other types of animals they can think of. What kinds of animals do the children have as pets? What are their favorite animals? Add these animals to the list until you have a list of at least 25–30 animals.

Next, give each child one copy of the blank bingo card on the next page. Ask everyone to choose 16 animals from the list you came up with as a group, and fill in the boxes on their individual bingo cards. The children can either write in the name of the animal, or draw a picture of the animal in each box.

It is important for each child to fill in their bingo card randomly and individually. No two bingo cards should be the same.

Call out the names of the animals at random. If a child’s card has that animal on it, she should mark the spot on her bingo card. The first person to get four in a row (horizontally, vertically, or diagonally) wins!
Mother Goose Bingo

Fill in the blank squares in the bingo card with the list of animals you came up with as a group. You can write in the name of the animal, or draw a picture of it. When you hear the name of an animal from your bingo card, make sure you mark it. The first person to get four in a row (horizontally, vertically, or diagonally) wins!
Valentine’s Day Word Search

Find the following words from *Will You Be Mine?*
Can you find where the words appear in the book?

- clock
- marry
- piggy
- ring
- cake
- moon
- kiss
- London
- queen

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Q C M I C E B
U A I O L N E
E K R B O A M
E E I D C N A
N Z N S K M R
I O G S S G R
L E P I G G Y
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Valentine’s Day Cards

Celebrate Valentine’s Day with the characters from Will You Be Mine?
Ask an adult to help you cut along the dotted lines, and then send a Valentine’s Day card to all of your friends!

**HAPPY VALENTINE’S DAY!**

To: __________________________

From: __________________________

**Be My Valentine**

To: __________________________

From: __________________________

**Will you be mine?**

To: __________________________

From: __________________________

**You’re purrrfect! Happy Valentine’s Day!**

To: __________________________

From: __________________________