

2018-2019

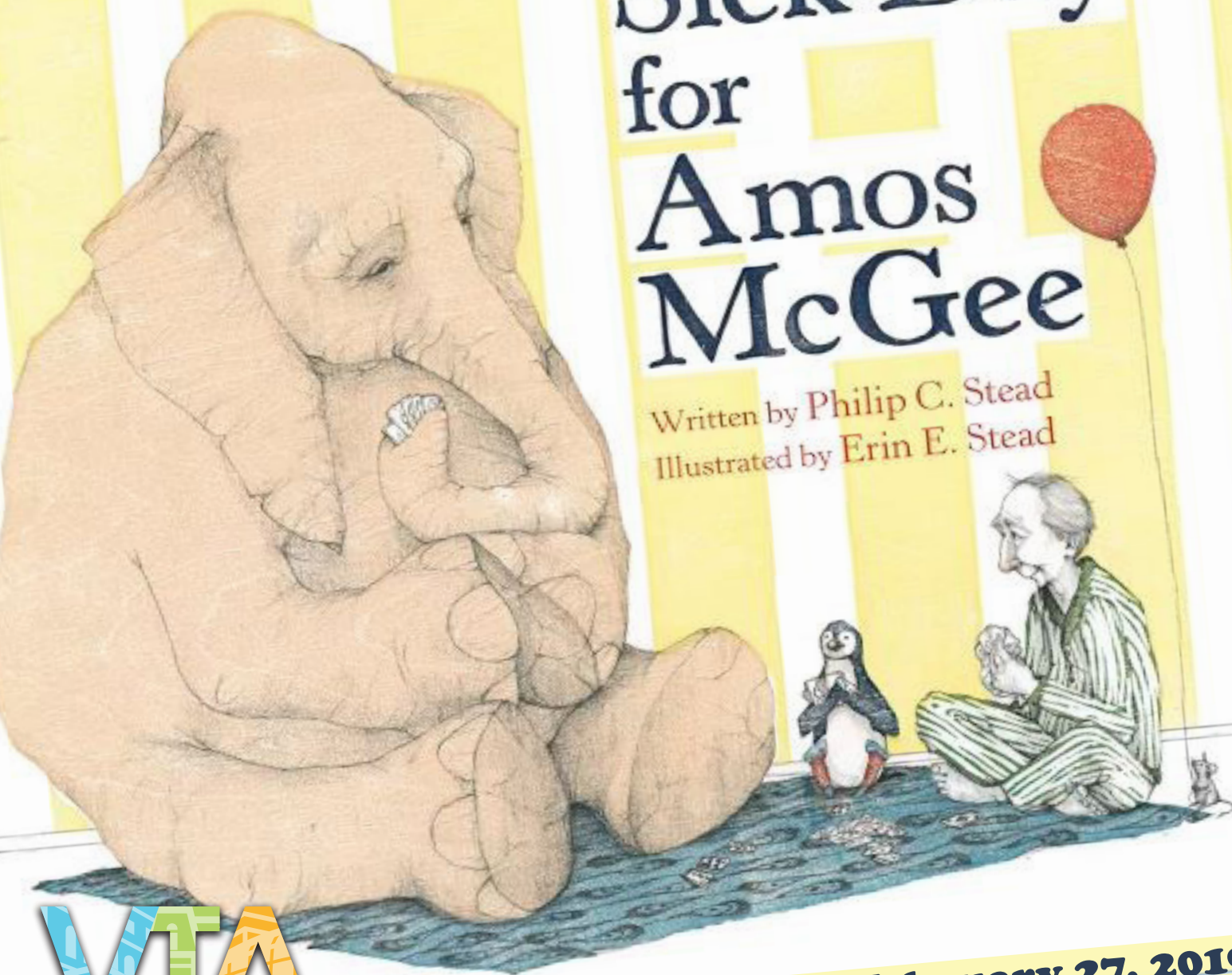
DISCOVERY

Resource Guide

Based on a book written by Philip and Erin Stead Book, music and lyrics by Bruce Craig Miller. Produced by Virginia Rep on Tour

A Sick Day for Amos McGee

Written by Philip C. Stead
Illustrated by Erin E. Stead



VTA

VICTORIA THEATRE ASSOCIATION

Wednesday, February 27, 2019
9:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.



Welcome to the 2018-2019 Discovery Series at Victoria Theatre Association. We are very excited to be your education partner in providing professional arts experiences to you and your students!

Published in 2010, *A SICK DAY FOR AMOS MCGEE* shares the story of a man and his animal friends, revealing a beautiful message that kindness for others (including animals) is very important. This story also won the prestigious Caldecott Medal in 2011. As you follow Amos McGee's reliable agenda of activities that suddenly gets put on hold when he gets a cold, I hope you and your students are inspired to find more ways to let the friends and family (both human and animal) in your life know how much they mean to you.

The information and activities in this resource guide have been carefully crafted to help you and your students explore the many ways a live theatre experience can open up learning opportunities. Grade level icons will help you determine which activities are good for students, too. And don't forget to take advantage of the local resources listed inside to extend the play-going experience and make even more curricular connections for you and your students. Thank you again and welcome!

Gary Minyard
Vice President of
Education & Engagement



Curriculum Connection



You will find these icons listed in the resource guide next to the activities that indicate curricular connections. Teachers and parents are encouraged to adapt all of the activities included in an appropriate way for your students' age and abilities. *A SICK DAY FOR AMOS MCGEE* fulfills the following Ohio and National Education Standards and Benchmarks for third through twelfth grade:

Ohio's Learning Standards for English/ Language Arts:

- Kindergarten- RL K.1, RL K.4, RL k.5, RL.K.7
- Grade 1- RL 1.2, RL 1.3, RL.1.7
- Grade 2- RL 2.1, RL 2.2, RL 2.7
- Grade 3- RL 3.1, RL 3.2, RL 3.7
- Grade 4- RL 4.1, RL 4.2, RL 4.7
- Grade 5- RL 5.1, RL 5.2, RL 5.7

Ohio's New Learning Standards for Math

Grades 3-5 -Operations & Algebraic Thinking,
Measurement & Data

Ohio's Learning Standards for Science

- Physical and Behavioral Traits of Living Things
- Basic Needs of Living Things
- Interactions within Habitats
- Interactions within Ecosystems

National Core Arts Theatre Standards:

- Kindergarten- TH:Cr1.1.K, TH:Pr4.1.K, TH:Pr5.1.K, TH:Re8.1.K, TH:Cn10.1.K.
- Grade 1- TH:Cr1.1.1, TH:Pr4.1.1, TH:Pr5.1.1, TH:Re7.1.1, TH:Re8.1.1, TH:Cn10.1.1.
- Grade 2- TH:Cr1.1.2, TH:Pr4.1.2, TH:Pr5.1.2, TH:Re7.1.2, TH:Re8.1.2, TH:Cn10.1.2.
- Grade 3- TH:Pr4.1.3, TH:Re8.1.3
- Grade 4- TH:Pr4.1.4, TH:Re8.1.4.
- Grade 5- TH:Pr4.1.5, TH:Re8.1.5.

This resource guide was created by Natalie Katona. All activities are available for distribution and use in the classroom or at home.

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About the Play

ENGLISH/
LANGUAGE
ARTS

A Sick Day For Amos McGee

This new musical, based on the 2011 Caldecott Medal Winner by Philip and Erin Stead, is sure to captivate you and your students. Amos McGee is as kindly and conscientious a zookeeper as you will find. Day after day he demonstrates the perfect way to bond with each of his friends: running races with the tortoise, spending quiet time with the timid penguin, and being always there with a handkerchief when one is needed by the sniffing elephant. When one day Amos himself feels under the weather and must remain home in his bed, the animals must decide together what they can do to return the favor.



Spotlight on Philip and Erin Stead



Phillip and Erin Stead are a husband and wife team who worked together when creating the book *A Sick Day for Amos McGee*. Phillip wrote the book and Erin illustrated the pictures. *A Sick Day for Amos McGee* earned a Caldecott Medal, was named A New York Times Best Illustrated Book of 2010, and a Publisher's Weekly Best Children's Book of 2010. The couple have also worked on another book, *Bear has a Story to Tell*. They are from Ann Arbor, Michigan, where they live in a 100-year old barn with their lovable dog, Wednesday. They also work on separate projects. Phillip writes music for the book trailers used to advertise his new books. Erin works on both book illustrations using wood block printing, as well as her own personal artwork. To learn more about Phillip please visit <https://philipstead.com/about/> and to learn more about Erin visit her site at <https://erinstead.com/about/>.

Ohio Spotlight

SCIENCE

ENGLISH/
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ARTS

A SICK DAY FOR AMOS MCGEE is a book about a zookeeper who must take a day off from taking care of animals at the zoo. Ohio is home to the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden, which offers many experiences for patrons to learn about different types of wildlife. The zoo opened in 1875 and is the second oldest zoo in the United States. It is also one of the largest in the country and is home to over 500 animals and 3,000 plant species. Their goal is for the zoo to continue to set a high standard for conservation, preservation, and education about wild animals and plant species. The mission and vision of the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden is dedicated to creating adventure, conveying knowledge, conserving nature, and serving the community. They serve their mission through several programs that are available to patrons. They have classes designed around fostering curiosity about the wildlife of the zoo while also building knowledge about the animals and encouraging empathy towards all life. They have family programs like days for moms and dads, evening hikes, and overnights. For schools, they offer field trips and for the zoo to make a classroom visit. To learn more about what the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden has to offer please visit: <http://cincinnati-zoo.org/>.



Pre-Show Conversation Starters



A SICK DAY FOR AMOS MCGEE is a story about kindness and empathy. It also offers lessons on building friendships and taking care of others when it is needed. Before coming to the show, read the book A Sick Day for Amos McGee and talk about these questions with your students.



1. Do you have animals at home? What are some activities you enjoy doing with them?

2. Have you taken care of someone? Why did you have to take care of them and how did you?

3. What is your favorite animal? What are some facts you know about that animal?

4. Who takes care of you when you are sick? How do they take care of you?






5. Who is a visitor you would want to have come visit you on a sick day? What activities would you do with them?

Amazing Animal Facts!

SCIENCE

ENGLISH/
LANGUAGE
ARTS

Amos McGee's job is to take care of the different animals at the zoo. Each animal has their own needs and different ways to take care of them. Learn all the ways elephants, tortoises, penguins, owls, and rhinos live!

FACT TYPE					
EATS	Leaves Twigs Grass Bark Fruits Flowers Bamboo	Leaves Bushes Fruit	Insects Small birds Mice Fish	Fish Krill Squid Shrimp Cold and icy landscapes	Fruit Cactus Grasses
HABITAT	Live in Asia and Africa Can live in the dry Savannah Live in dense, wet rainforests	Live in Africa and Asia Lives in grassland savannahs Lives in the rainforest	North America- You can see different owls in Ohio Lives in: Forests Mountains Deserts Plains Tundra	Live in Africa and Asia Lives in grassland savannahs Lives in the rainforest	Live on Galapagos Islands Lives in: Marshlands Meadows
OTHER FACTS	Largest land mammal One of the smartest animals: can show complex emotions such as humor and grief Love water and will swim and bathe in rivers Have tusks made of ivory for defense	Named after their nose horn which is made of compacted hair Second largest land mammal Small brains compared to large size	Owls are nocturnal and fly mostly at night Sharp talons for hunting Are farsighted and can't see things close very well Use camouflage to blend into their environment	Birds that do not fly Use flippers to swim, no wings Can stay under water for up to 20 minutes at a time Feathers keep them warm under cold water Black and white feathers are camouflage while swimming	Can live up to 120 years Lays eggs and then buries them Lounge in mud pits to stay cool Can go a whole year without food or water

A Zookeeper's Day



Read through the daily schedule of a zookeeper so you know what it takes to keep all the animals happy and healthy! To learn more about a zookeeper's day, you can check out *A Typical Day in the Life of a Zookeeper* at : <https://www.ici.net.au/blog/a-typical-day-in-the-life-of-a-zookeeper/>.

9:00am Team Meeting -

Every day the zookeeper starts with their staff meeting. The zookeeper gets updates on zoo news, problems that are happening around the zoo, or animals that may need extra care or attention.

10:00am- 12:00pm Animal Observation and Study -

A lot of the zookeeper's job is to simply watch the animals. They will take notes on changes in behavior such as eating differently or not at all or acting more aggressively than normal.

12:00pm-1:00pm Lunch -

For animals to be healthy, a zookeeper has to keep themselves fed and healthy too!

1:00pm-3:00pm Feeding animals-

The zookeeper prepares each animal's different meal. They are then responsible for handing out the food to the animals in a way that is safest for themselves and the animals.

3:00pm-5:00pm Play and Enrichment -

Zookeepers get to play at work! They lead the animals in different engaging activities to keep them mentally and physically healthy. Some animals play hide and seek, play catch with balls, or play in water.

5:00pm-6:00pm Guided tours -

Zookeepers keep people informed at the zoo! They lead groups around the zoo, giving facts about the animals. They also will lead classes or shows about the different animals.

6:00pm-7:00pm Research -

Zookeepers are always learning! They are always looking up news about different species or researching the animals they are currently working with. Keeping up to date on their research helps them give the best care possible to the animals.

Do you think you would want to work as a zookeeper?

Zoo Venn Diagram

ENGLISH/
LANGUAGE
ARTS

SCIENCE

GRADES
2-5

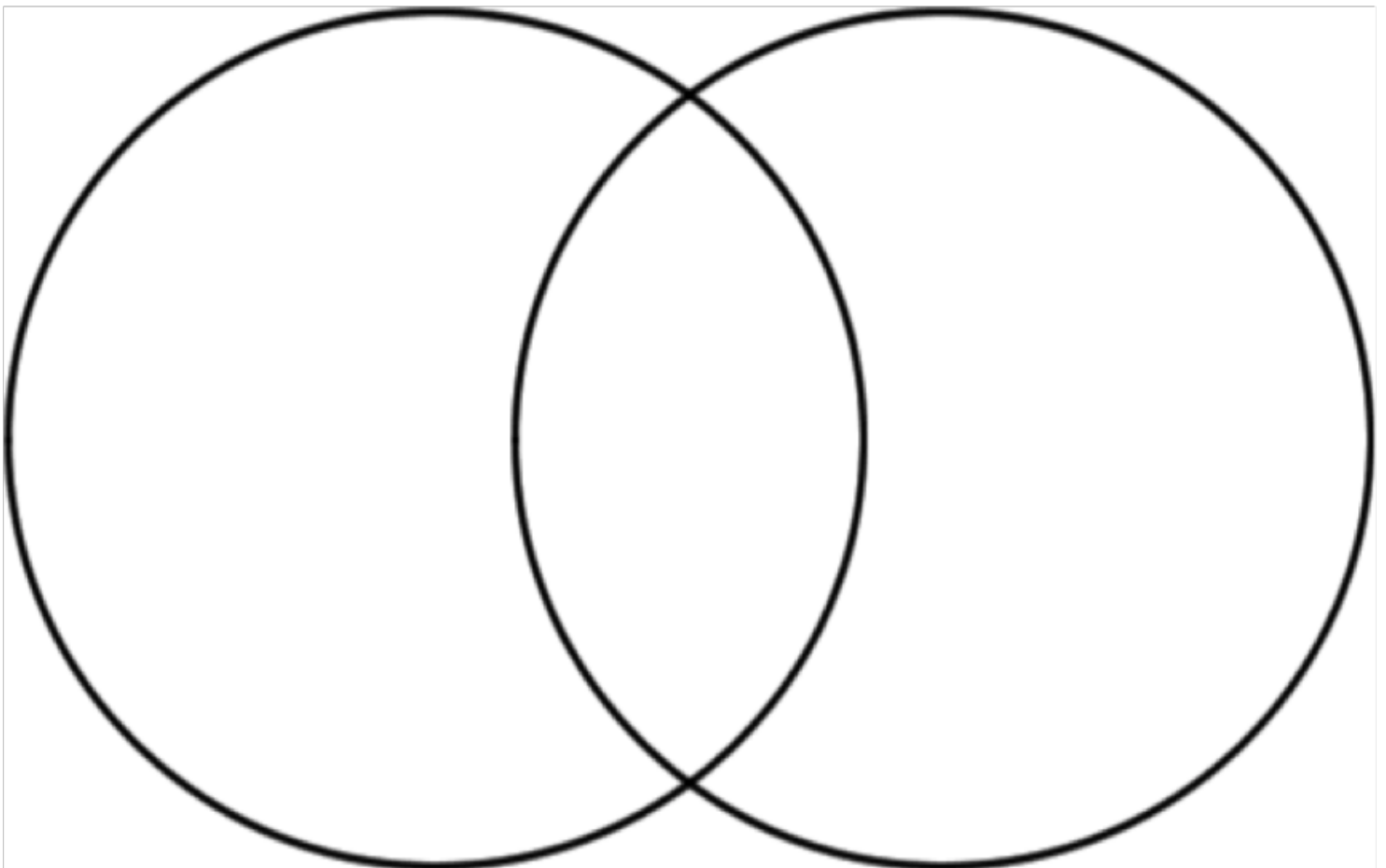
NAME: _____ **Date:** _____

Use the research you read in this resource guide to compare and contrast two of the animals in *A SICK DAY FOR AMOS MCGEE*.
Choose from: elephant, penguin, tortoise, owl, or rhino.

Animal 1:

Both

Animal 2:



Sequence the Zookeeper's Day

ENGLISH/
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GRADES
K-2

NAME: _____ **Date:** _____

Use the zookeeper schedule in this resource guide to sequence the events in Amos's day.

Use numbers 1-7 in the blanks next to the event.

_____ Amos goes to play with the elephants. He takes a large ball and rolls it back and forth with the elephant so the elephant's trunk stays strong. This was a great session of **play and enrichment**.

_____ Amos needs to make lunch for all the animals. He makes the penguin a bucket of sardines and delivers them to the habitat. He then throws them for the penguins so they can catch them. He did a great job **feeding animals**.

_____ Amos gets up early and goes to work. He sits with the other zookeepers and listens about how the tortoise isn't feeling well and needs extra care today. He had a good **morning meeting**.

_____ The local elementary school came for a field trip. Amos walks around with the third-grade class and takes them to the different animal exhibits. He did a nice **guided tour**.

_____ Amos is given a new book about the different types of rhinos. He reads the books and takes notes on different ways to feed elephants. He is learning **new research**.

_____ Amos has a turkey sandwich and sits in the zoo cafeteria. He is enjoying his **lunch**.

_____ Amos is at the bird pavilion. He is watching the owls and measuring how they are flying around the habitat. He is **observing the animals**.

Zookeeper Math



NAME: _____ Date: _____

Help Amos calculate the math that is involved with working at the zoo. Read the problem, show your work, and then find your answer to keep the zoo running smoothly!






Problem	Work	Answer
Each penguin eats 7 shrimp for lunch. How many shrimp does Amos need for 9 penguins?		
The elephants had 96 bushes in their habitat. They have stomped out 32 bushes. How many bushes are left in their habitat?		
The owls eat 105 mice in a 7-day week. How many mice is that per day?		
One rhino eats 12 pounds of grass per day. How many pounds of grass would the zoo's 15 rhinos eat?		
The tortoise started with a pool of 45 gallons of water. After some research, Amos decided they needed 60 gallons in their pool. How many gallons need to be added?		
The zoo started the week with 225 krill. It ended with 150. How many krill did the penguins eat this week?		
Each elephant will eat 25 bamboo shoots in one day. How many bamboo shoots will 22 elephants eat?		

Animal Syllables



NAME: _____ **Date:** _____

Clap out how many syllables are in the names of some of the zoo animals Amos takes care of.

ANIMAL NAME	HOW MANY SYLLABLES?
TORTOISE 	
OWL 	
ELEPHANT 	
PENGUIN 	
RHINO 	
HIPPOPOTAMUS 	
GORILLA 	

Sick Day Comic

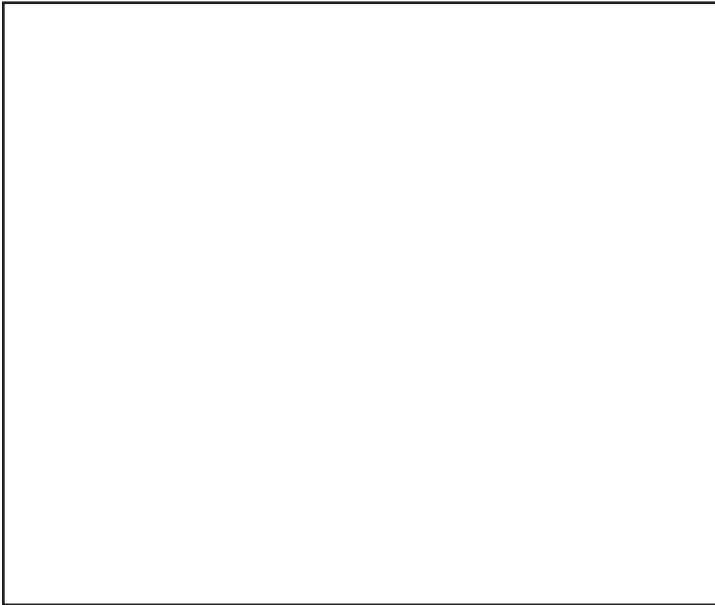
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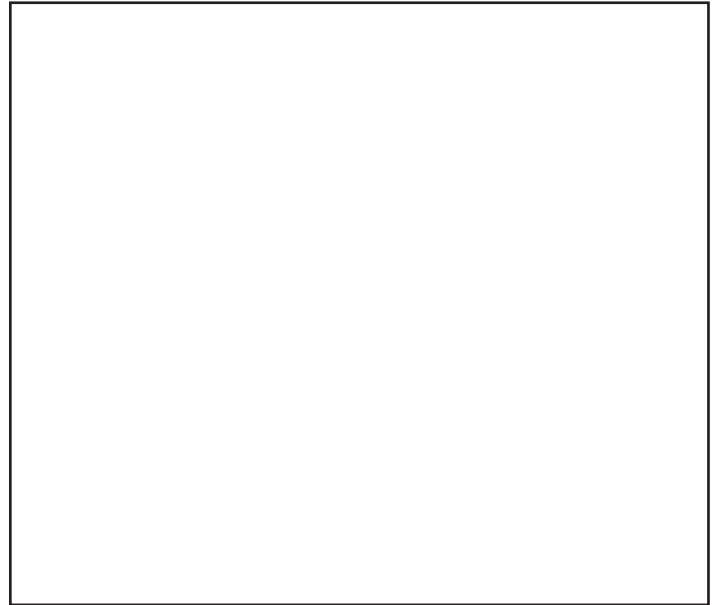
NAME: _____ **Date:** _____

Do you read comics in the newspaper? Comics use both graphic pictures and short lines of writing to tell exciting stories! Write your own 4-panel cartoon about a sick day. Are you sick and getting visitors? Did one of the zoo animals get sick and you're taking care of them? Use your imagination and come up with your own sick day story!

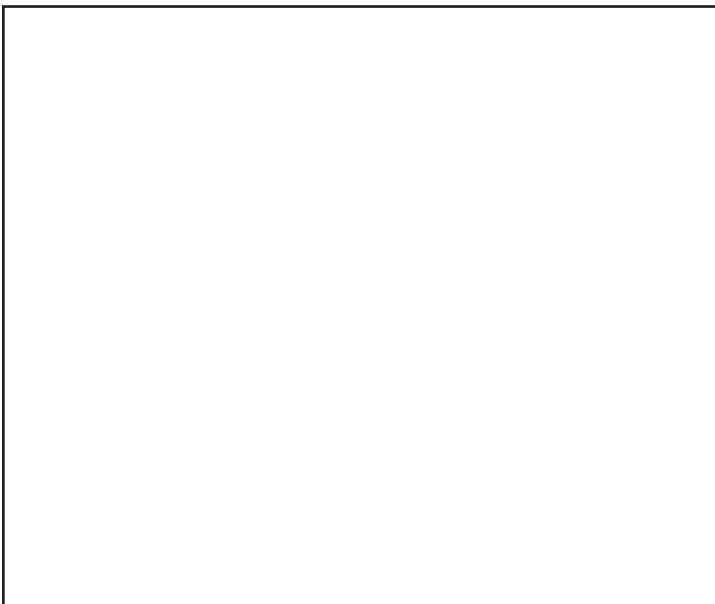
Panel 1- Beginning



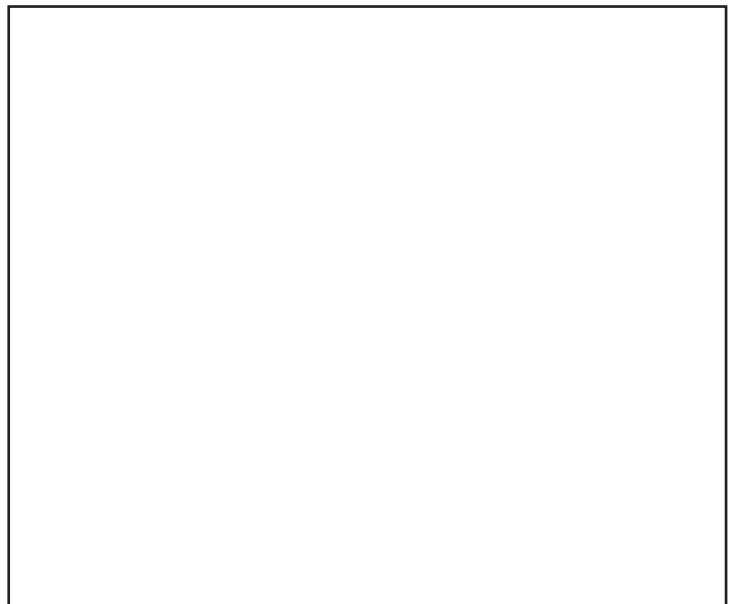
Panel 2-Middle



Panel 3- Middle



Panel 4- Ending



Get Well Soon Balloon

ENGLISH/
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ARTS



Amos's zoo friends brought him a balloon to help make him feel better. Write Amos or someone you know a "Get Well Soon" Balloon!

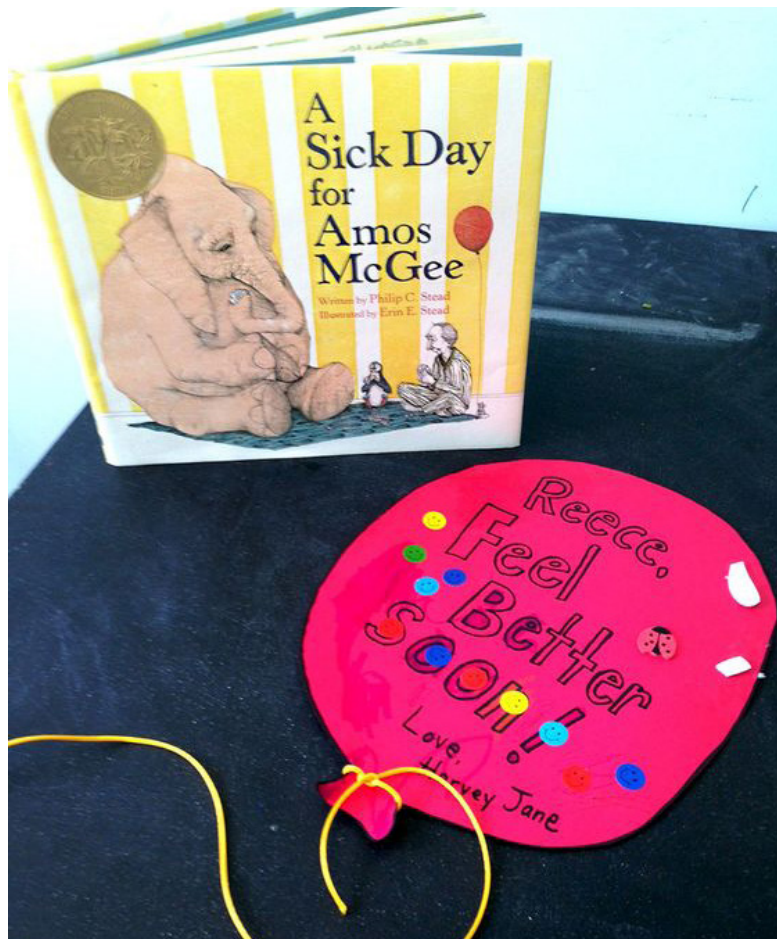
Materials

Construction Paper- each student will need two sheets of paper of different colors
Scissors
Glue
Markers/crayons/colored pencils
Yarn cut into enough pieces so each student has one
Balloon Template- cut out our template and make stencils for your students to trace and cut

Steps

- 1) Have students select their balloon color and their base color.
- 2) Students will trace a balloon on one of their sheets of paper.
- 3) Students will then write a "get well" message to someone who is sick.
- 4) Students will paste their balloon onto their other piece of paper.
- 5) Students will paste their string onto their balloon.

Finished Project



Publications for Students

Additional Stories by Phillip & Erin Stead

Bear has a Story to Tell, Written by Phillip C. Stead. Illustrated by Erin E. Stead.

Roaring Brook Press 2012.

A Home for Bird, Written and Illustrated by Phillip C. Stead. Roaring Brook Press 2012.

Hello, My Name is Ruby, Written and Illustrated by Phillip C. Stead. Roaring Brook Press 2013.

And then it's Spring, Written by Julie Fogliano. Illustrated by Erin E. Stead. Roaring Brook Press 2012.

If You Want to See a Whale, Written by Julie Fogliano. Illustrated by Erin E. Stead.

Roaring Brook Press 2013.

Publications for Teachers and Parents:

Eyewitness: Elephant, Written by Ian Redmond. DK Children 2000.

Inquire Within: Implementing Inquiry-Based Science Standards in Grades 3-8, Written by Douglas J. Llewellyn. Corwin 2007.

Websites:

<https://www.columbuszoo.org/>- The official Website of the Columbus Zoo

http://blaine.org/sevenimpossiblethings/?page_id=2- A blog about books that Phillip and Erin Stead were featured on

<https://www.npr.org/2011/08/04/138797874/erin-and-phillip-stead-illustrator-and-author-of-a-sick-day-for-amos->
A radio broadcast Phillip and Erin did about the publications

Victoria Fuse's Local Resource

Dayton is home to a small zoo as well! Boonshoft Museum of Discovery has its very own Discovery Zoo. The zoo is home to over one hundred animals and insects. Some of the resident creatures are river otters, a variety of frogs, porcupines, and meerkats. There are also programs where families can get closer to the animals. Families can book private animal experiences where patrons get a tour of what goes on behind the scenes of the museum and get hands on experience with the animals.

Parents can also sign their children up to be a Jr. Zookeeper for the day.

Children can prepare food for the animals, help out with their care, and learn from the staff about the different needs of the animals. For more information on the programs Boonshoft offers, please visit:

<https://www.boonshoftmuseum.org/>



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Virginia Rep's Children's Theatre is a nonprofit, professional theatre in Richmond, Virginia. Since 1975 they have created exciting and innovative theatrical productions for young audiences. Each year they stage six shows at their intimate Children's Theatre in Richmond, and tour national-caliber, educational plays to schools and public venues in Virginia and across the country.

DON'T FORGET

All schools that receive scholarships for a show and/or transportation are asked and encouraged to create thank-you letters or cards for our sponsors. Please address your students' thank-you notes to:

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