

Catch The Reading Bug 2007 – Week One

Sub-theme: Things That Bug You

Title: **My Brother's a Bother, My Sister's a Pain**

Age: 6 to 9 years old

Duration: 1 hour

Submitted by: Helen Graham Trail & District Public Library

Materials/Supplies:

Each participant makes two bugs and each bug requires:

- three pipe cleaners
- one large pompom
- two google eyes
- Glue

Description:

This program is based on Marie-Louise Gay's books about Stella and Sam. Other books can be used but these are widely available and the children are endearing and funny and either of them could be a pain to have as a sibling. Any of these books can be used to promote a discussion on how brothers and sisters bug one another. If you want to do a craft, make simple bug siblings with pipe cleaner legs and pompom bodies.

Procedure:

1. Read:

A Stella or Sam books by Marie-Louise Gay, *Stella, Star of the Sea* is good for summer, but any will do.

- What's annoying about Sam? *He's always asking questions.*
- What's annoying about Stella? *She's a know it all.*
- Who are you most like?
- Do you know someone like Sam? Is asking questions all the time a bad thing, or just annoying to other people?
- Sometimes Stella makes up things, is she lying, or just using her imagination?

2. Role Play:

Pretend Stella is taking Sam to the Library for the first time.

- i. What are some of the questions he might ask?
- ii. How might Stella answer?

Suggestions for Library questions:

- Are there any books about trucks?
- Why do I need a Library card?
- Do I get to keep the books
- Has the Librarian read all these books?
- How does the Librarian know where all the books are?
- Who wrote all these books?
- Why can't I eat my peanut butter and jelly sandwich in here?

- Why can I play on this computer, but not that computer?

3. Read:

The poem “Good Example” from I Gave my Mom a Castle by Jean Little or “The Bratty Brother” from Garbage Delight by Dennis Lee.

- i. Discuss the contents of the poems. Has anyone had similar experiences? Is it better to be the older or the younger sibling. If you don't have any siblings have you experienced these things with other people – cousins, friends, etc.

4. Optional craft:

Make 2 simple bug siblings with pipe cleaner legs, pompom bodies and google eyes. Take three pipe cleaners; twist them together in the middle, creating six legs, glue pompom on the twisted section. Glue google eyes on pompom.

5. Book talk:

Book talk a book or two from the resource list.

Resources:

Books:

Bailey, Linda. Any of the Good Times Travel Agency books such as Adventures in the Middle Ages.

Bonsall, Crosby. The day I Had to Play with My Sister.

Byars, Betsy. My Brother, Ant .

Brown Laurie K., Rex and Lily.

Cleary, Beverly. Beezus and Ramona.

Fox, Paula. Radiance Descending.

Gilman, Phoebe. Jillian Jigs to the Rescue.

Henkes, Kevin. Sun & Spoon.

Hutchins, Pat. Where's the Baby?.

Jones, Jasmine. Oh, Brother! (a Lizzie McGuire book).

Lowry, Lois. Anastasia Krupnik.

Sheldon, Dyan. My Brother is a Visitor from Another Planet.

Taylor, Cora. Angelique: Buffalo Hunt (Our Canadian Girl).