

Candlewick Press Teachers' Guide

# Bink & Gollie

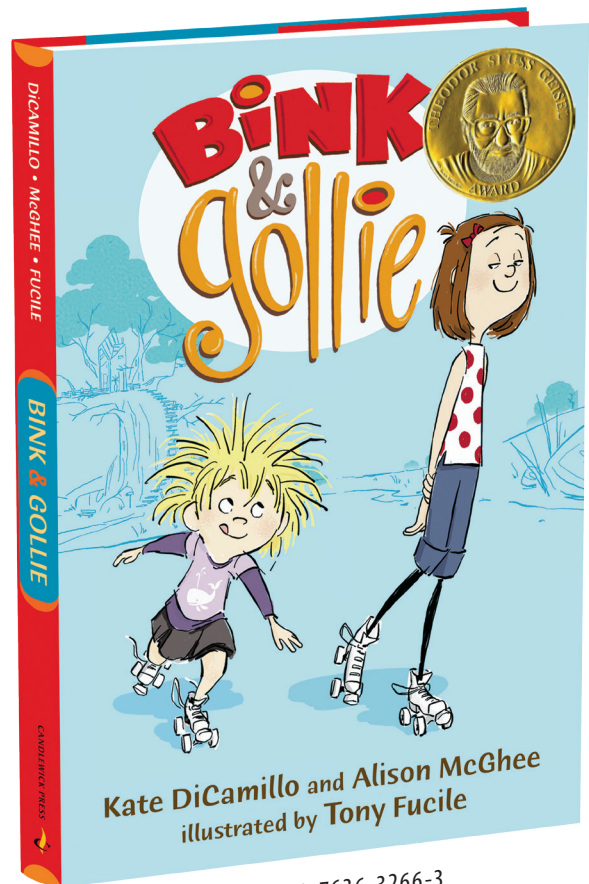
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and  
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illustrated by  
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Meet Bink and Gollie, two BFFs as different as can be. One's short, and one's tall. One's blonde, and one's brunette. One loves outrageously bright striped socks, and one can't stand looking at them! At least they both know how to compromise . . . and roller-skate!

Invite students to join this mismatched pair as they battle their way through a "sock bonanza," scale a mountain, and give a goldfish a marvelous new home. These two remarkable companions can accomplish anything — as long as they're together.

Designed to engage young readers and extend the themes and concepts found in *Bink & Gollie* into cross-curriculum instruction, the following activities will help students get to know these two wonderfully different, yet strikingly similar friends.



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For more Bink and Gollie  
fun, please visit  
[www.binkandgollie.com](http://www.binkandgollie.com)



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# Classroom Activities

## Bink & Gollie & Math

Bink is short and Gollie is tall. How does your class measure up?

### Materials:

White butcher paper  
Tape  
Markers  
Tape measure

### Instructions:

Tape a large piece of butcher paper along one wall. Have students look at the cover of *Bink & Gollie*. Ask them to think about the difference in height between Bink and Gollie. Have them draw a life-size likeness of Bink at one end of the paper and one of Gollie at the other. Measure and record each character's height. Then line up the class in height order, using Bink and Gollie as a reference. Have students take turns tracing one another with a marker on the butcher paper. When the drawings are complete, ask each student to measure his or her height and compare it to Bink's and Gollie's. Finally, invite students to decorate and color their traced selves. Hang the size chart in the hallway for the whole school to see!



## Bink & Gollie & Science

On page 76, Bink tells Gollie to use her gray matter to figure out who her most marvelous companion is. Explain to students that gray matter is gray-colored tissue in people's brains that helps them think. Have them follow the steps below to make their own "gray matter." Note that three different substances combine to make a very different fourth substance. It won't really help them think, but it's gooey and fun to play with!

Each student will need these materials:

### Materials:

1 cup water  
½ cup white glue  
1 tablespoon borax  
Mixing bowl  
Plastic bags

### Directions:

Mix ½ cup water and ½ cup glue in a mixing bowl. In a separate bowl, mix ½ cup water and 1 tablespoon of borax. Add the borax solution to the glue mixture. Using your hands, knead for five minutes. Make sure you store the "gray matter" in a plastic bag so it doesn't dry out.



## Bink & Gollie & Social Studies

Gollie uses a globe to pick out a spot for her next adventure. She closes her eyes, spins her globe, and points. Her finger lands on the Andes Mountains, and for next few hours she entertains herself by imagining what it would be like to climb a snow-covered mountain.

Have your students explore the globe and go on exciting worldwide adventures without leaving the classroom. Ask each student to choose a different place on a globe or map. Allow them time to look up fun things to do in each destination. Then have students design a scrapbook page using words and drawings that show themselves enjoying their journey. Invite them to share their adventures with the class.

## Bink & Gollie & Language Arts

The next three activities, are designed as reproducibles to be handed out to your class.

# My Marvelous Companion

Bink and Gollie are very different, but they are still best friends. Read the paragraph below. Then fill in the blanks with words and phrases describing your relationship with your own best friend.

My most marvelous companion is \_\_\_\_\_.

Our favorite thing to do together is \_\_\_\_\_.

Some ways we are alike are \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

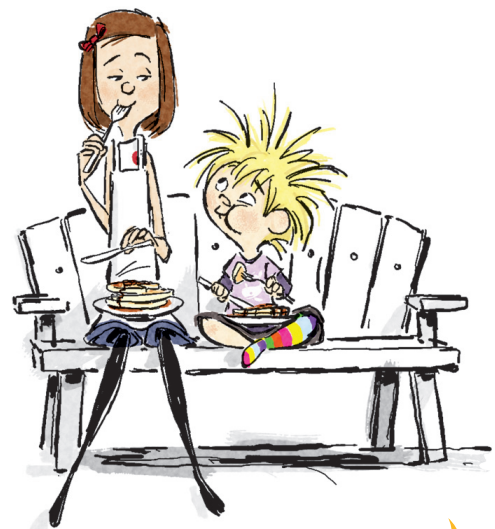
Some ways we are different are \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

I can't wait to see my best friend next because we are going to  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Sometimes we argue about \_\_\_\_\_.

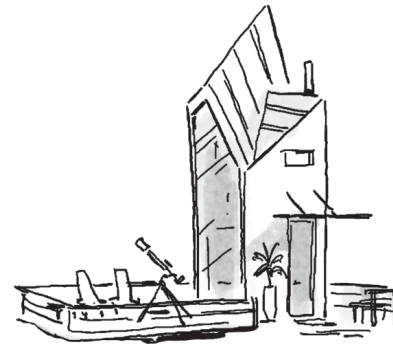
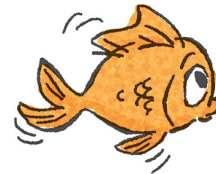
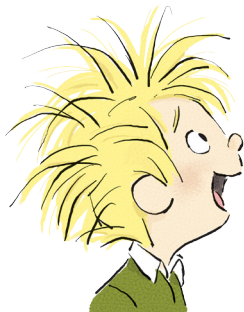
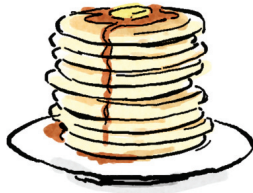
But we always make up because \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Use your answers in the paragraph above to help you write a story about what would happen if you and your most marvelous companion were both stranded on a desert island and had to live together in a tree house.



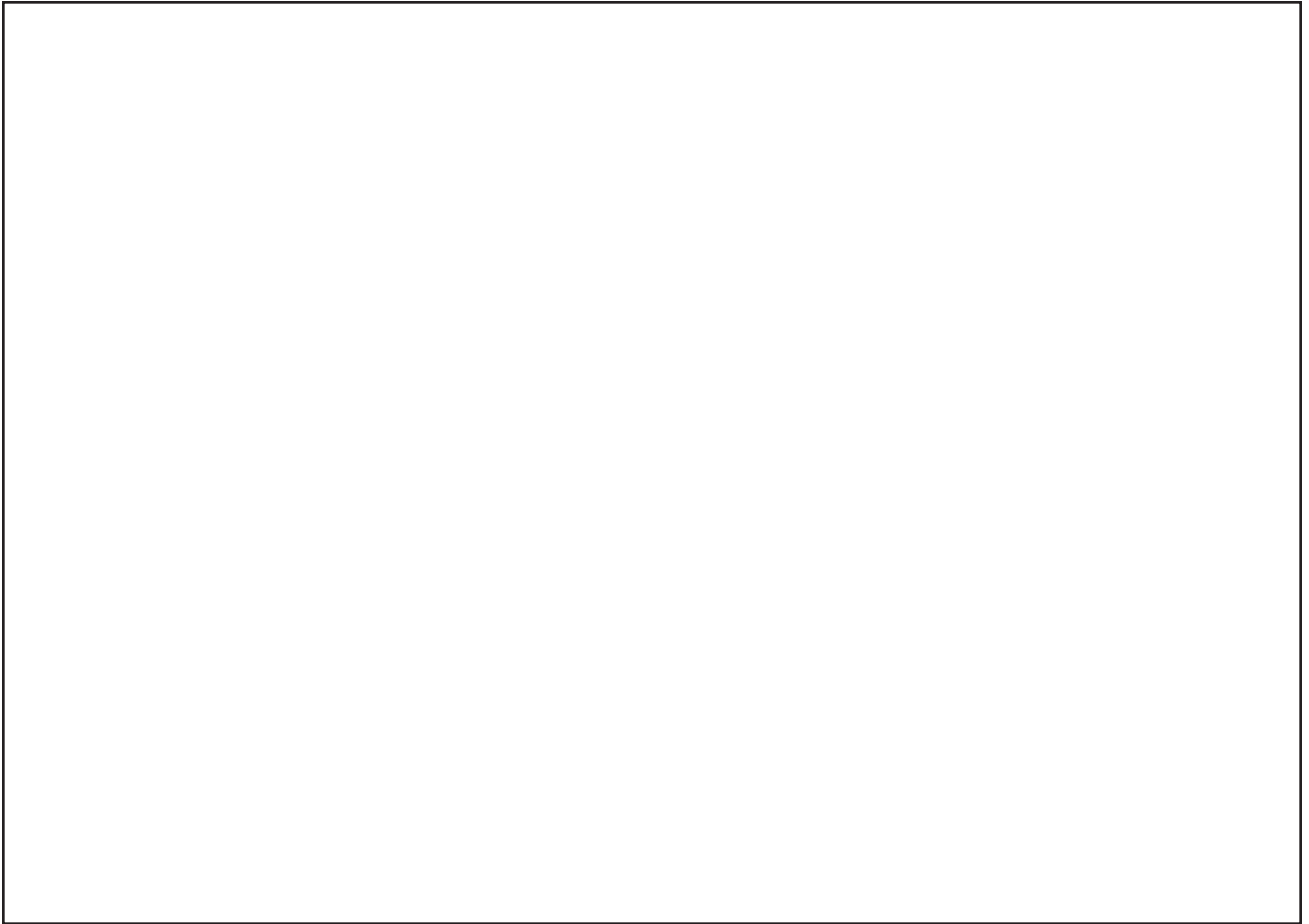
# A Perfect Pair

In *Bink & Gollie*, many things come in pairs. Look at the items in the left-hand column. Then draw lines to their partners in the right-hand column.



# Get into the Scene!

Pretend you are a third character in *Bink & Gollie*. Draw yourself in one of the scenes featuring Bink or Gollie — or both! (Don't forget to draw your socks!) Then write five adjectives describing the scene. Feel free to color your picture in outrageously bright colors!



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