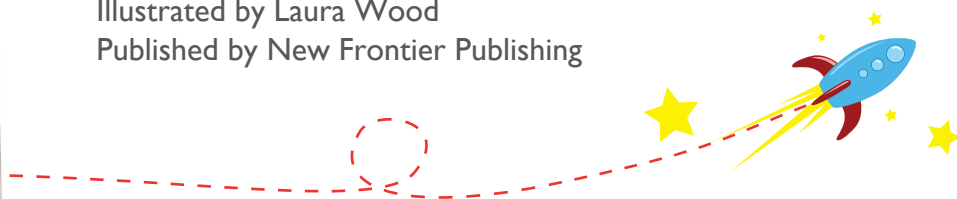




Teaching Notes: *Who's Afraid of the Quite Nice Wolf?*

Written by Kitty Black
Illustrated by Laura Wood
Published by New Frontier Publishing



SYNOPSIS

The Quite Nice Wolf doesn't fit in with the local wolf pack. He commences training to become a proper wolf - one that's BIG and BAD. Can he help the wolf pack with their master plan? And more importantly, does he want to?

SIMILAR TITLES

If you liked *The Mouse, the Duck and the Wolf* by Mac Barnett and Jon Klassen, and *How to Be a Lion* by Ed Vere, then you'll love *Who's Afraid of the Quite Nice Wolf*.

AUTHOR BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Kitty Black, with four university degrees in psychology and a promise to eventually get a real job, disappointed her family with her continued love of children's books. They are now supporting her dream of writing. Kitty enjoys telling people about confusing plot lines and asking what they'd name a dragon. *Who's Afraid of the Quite Nice Wolf* is her debut picture book, with two more picture books to be released in 2020. Kitty lives in Perth with her husband and two children, who are excellent at providing both inspiration and noise.

ILLUSTRATOR BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Laura Wood is an independent illustrator based in Milan. While she loves the whole world of illustration, she is particularly drawn to children's illustration because it allows her to play with colours and characters in order to create the perfect world she would like to live in: sunny, safe and fun. Her sunny art style is conveyed by earthy and pastel tones and is accompanied by a strong sense of narrative.

EDUCATIONAL APPLICABILITY

Who's Afraid of the Quite Nice Wolf is a funny, heart-warming story about friendship and finding the courage to be yourself. The story also introduces children to the idea of stereotypes and how to break away from them.

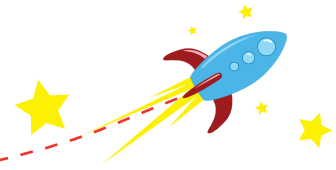


Teaching Notes: *Who's Afraid of the Quite Nice Wolf?*

Written by Kitty Black

Illustrated by Laura Wood

Published by New Frontier Publishing



DISCUSSION TOPICS

Before and during reading

1. Show the children the book cover and ask them what they think the story might be about.
2. Have they read or been told many fairy tales? Which fairy tales feature a Big Bad Wolf?
3. Why do they think wolves are so often the villains of fairy tales?

After reading

1. What did the children think of the story? Did they like it? Who was their favourite character and why?
2. Explain the idea of stereotypes to the children and ask what they think the stereotypes are about wolves? Have they ever heard of a nice wolf in stories?
3. How about the stereotypes about sheep? Have they ever read about a Big Bad Sheep?
4. What do they think is better, to break the stereotype like Wilfred and the sheep, or to follow it like the wolf pack?



Wilfred was a wolf.

But not a scary one.

WOLF FACTS

While wolves are amongst the most efficient hunters in the world, there is much more to them than their fierce reputation would suggest. Take the opportunity to learn more about wolves by reading the facts below.



Image by Marcel Langthim from Pixabay

1. Wolves are famous for their spine-chilling howl, which they use to communicate. Wolves howl for a variety of reasons. A wolf separated from the pack will howl to get their attention and figure out their location, or a wolf pack will howl together to send territorial messages from one pack to another. Wolves are similar to domestic dogs in the fact that a wolf will start howling simply because they hear the howl of another wolf. Wolves have even been known to respond to a human imitating their howl. A lone wolf (a wolf without a pack) rarely howls.
2. Wolves are incredibly social creatures and live in packs of about six to ten animals. The pack has a strict hierarchy, with a dominant male and female at the top. Usually these two are the only ones to have pups. All of the adults pitch in to help raise the pups by bringing them food and watching them while other members of the pack hunt.

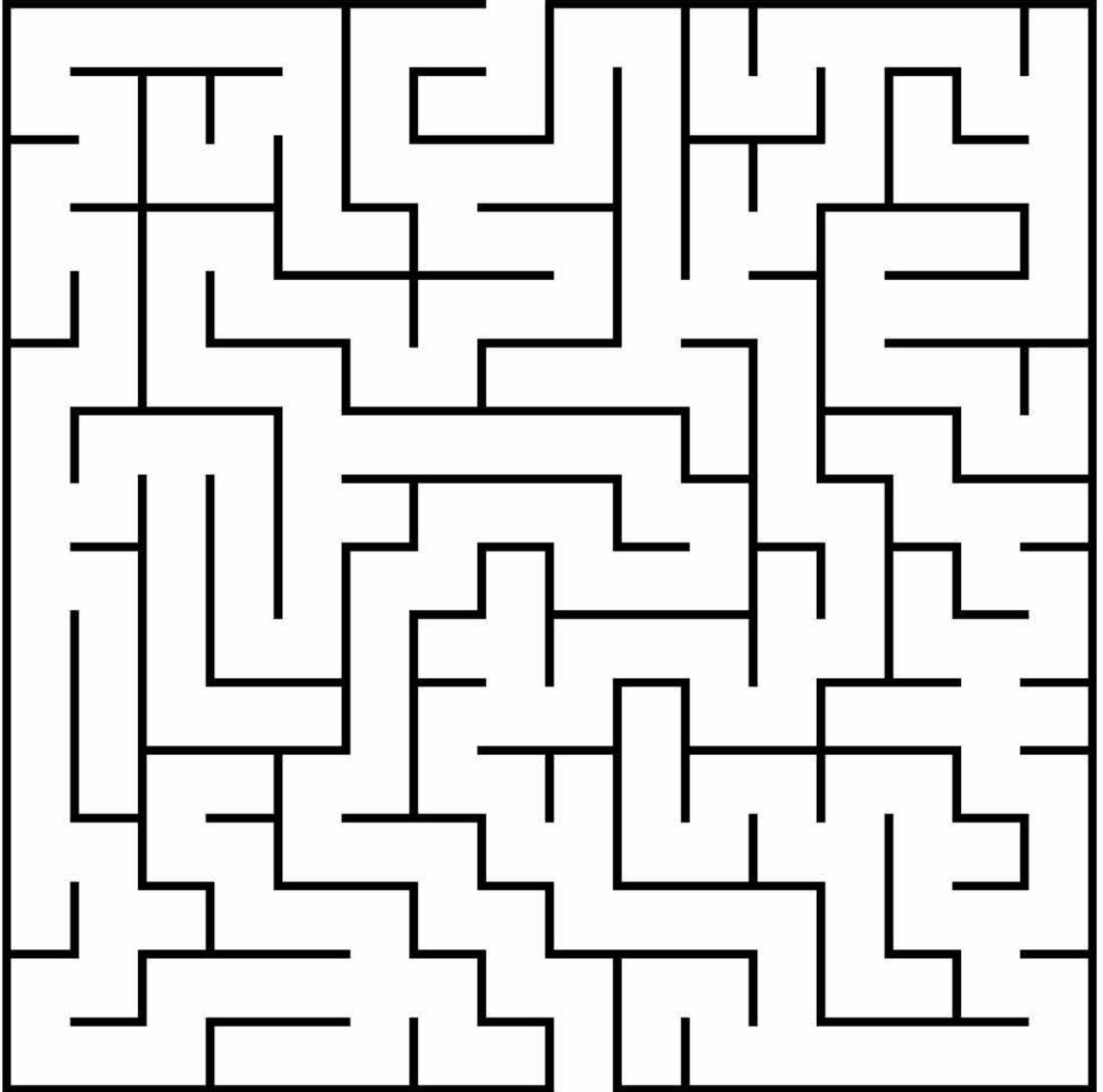


Image by christels from Pixabay

3. Once a wolf has found a mate, they usually stay together for life.
4. Wolves cooperate to bring down large prey like deer, elk and moose, but they will also eat birds, fish, lizards, snakes and fruit.

MAZE

Help Wilfred find his way back to Mildred and the sheep.



DRAWING ACTIVITY

If you could be friends with any animal, which animal would you choose and why? Draw yourself and your animal friend in the space below. For bonus points, write down a couple of personality traits that your animal friend would have.



CRAFT ACTIVITY

Finger Paint Sheep

What you will need:

Black paint

White paint

Coloured paper (any colour aside from black or white)

Instructions

1. Dip your fingers into the white paint and print lots of white fingerprints in an oval shape on the paper.
2. Add a large thumbprint in black paint to be the head, and another smaller fingerprint on top of the head to be the ears.
3. Finally, make four black fingerprints as the legs.
4. Note: if you happen to have some black paper and googly eyes in your craft box, you can use them instead of the black paint. Cut out an oval for the face (large enough to stick on two googly eyes) then two smaller ovals for the ears. Cut out four rectangles for the legs. Finally stick the two eyes next to each other on the largest black oval.
5. The end result (when using the paint) should look like this:



Credit to Activity Village
<https://www.activityvillage.co.uk/fingerprint-sheep>