



How Do You Hug A Porcupine?

Author: Laurie Isop

Illustrator: Gwenn Millward

Themes: Kindness, Inclusion, Empathy

Book Brief: A playful, rhyming story that explores creative ways to show love and kindness to those who might seem hard to love—even someone as prickly as a porcupine!

READ ALOUD

Before Reading: Build Background

- Ask, "Have you ever wanted to be friends with someone but weren't sure how? What did you do?"
- Explain to your child that this is a fun, rhyming story about finding different ways to be kind and friendly, even to someone who seems a little prickly or hard to get close to.

While Reading: Make Connections

- What are some of the different ways the story suggests showing kindness?
- Why might it be hard to hug a porcupine?
- How does the story end? Did they find a way to show love?

After Reading: Ask Questions

- Ask, "Can you think of a time when someone was kind to you? How did it make you feel?"

RELATED ACTIVITIES

If your child enjoyed this book:

- Practice "porcupine hugs." Talk about how some people need space or gentleness, just like a porcupine. Practice different ways to show care: a wave, a smile, kind words, sitting nearby, or a gentle high-five. Let your child choose which type of "hug" feels right for different situations.