

A Balloon for Isabel

A RIF GUIDE FOR COMMUNITY COORDINATORS

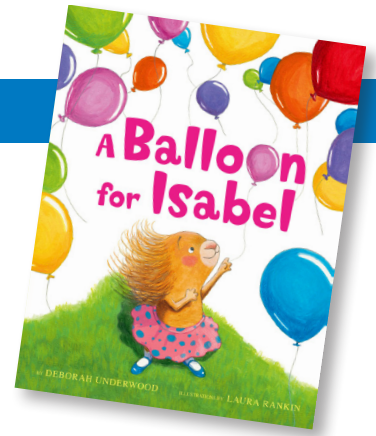
Themes: Problem Solving, Scientific Method, Perseverance

Book Brief: A porcupine on a mission, Isabel wants a balloon at her graduation just like her classmates will have. She and her friend Walter experiment until they find a way to keep porcupines'

balloons from popping!

Author:
Deborah Underwood

Illustrator:
Laura Rankin



TIME TO READ!

Before reading: Ask if anybody has ever wanted anything so badly that they worked hard to figure out a plan to make it happen. Ask who has heard the saying, "If at first you don't succeed, try, try again"? This story is about Isabel, who does just that!

RELATED ACTIVITIES

SQUISH! (AGES 5-12)

Materials: balloons, flour, funnel, water

To stretch balloon, blow it up and then deflate. Use funnel to fill balloon full with flour. Add 1 tablespoon of water and tie off balloon. Squish balloon until flour and water are mixed. How does it feel? What happened when flour and water were combined? What balloon shapes can you make?

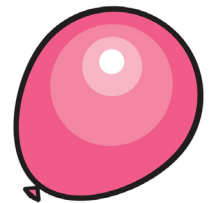
TIE THE KNOT (AGES 9-12)

Divide children into equal, numbered teams. Give each team a long piece of rope. Each child on the team has to hold a part of the rope. When you say go, each team has to tie a knot in the center of the rope without any of the children letting go of their spot. Could children find solutions and tie the knot? How?



BUMP IT UP! (AGES 5-12)

Blow up one balloon. Have children form a circle. Call out someone's name and a body part. That person has to hit the balloon with the specified body part before the balloon hits the ground. Continue calling names and body parts until balloon hits the ground. See if the group can increase the number of times the balloon is bumped in each round.



TECHNOLOGY LINK

Let kids choose a game to test their problem solving skills at www.pbskids.org/games/problemsolving.html.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

OTHER BOOKS BY THIS AUTHOR

The Loud Book (2011)
Part Time Princess (2013)
The Quiet Book (2010)



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