

“Wendel Wordsworth: No Words for Wendel”
Author School Visit

Pre-K - 2

Time: Approx. 35 minutes

DIANA BLACK
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Prior to visit:

Number of students & sessions will be decided upon per school's needs.

A book order form will be emailed (to the media specialist and/or educator responsible for visit) that may be sent home with the students.

The author will bring books to the visit.

During the visit:

Please provide "show and tell" space. The author will have as much fun reading the story as children will hearing it! There will be activities and interaction, so please allow ample room.

Please let the author know if a computer will be available to play a CD with sing-along song.

After reading the story, lively interactive discussion takes place on topics ranging from libraries and eyeglasses to the "smelly sock" comment Wendel makes in the book! The sing-along song about nouns and verbs is again opportunity for interaction and movement.

Time permitting, Q&A will be held on the following topics or writing & becoming an author/illustrator, or anything else students find of interest.

Time allowing, the following curriculum is covered:

- Language
- Science
- Social Studies
- Math
- Health & Safety

Discussion questions

1. **Why do you think Big Buzz hadn't learned how to read?**
2. **What risks did Wendel take climbing the oak tree?**
3. **What do you think library books smell like?**
4. **Why do you think Wendel's last name is Wordsworth?**

5. What other animals would make unlikely friends?
6. What other kinds of trees could Big Buzz have used for his home?

Character Discussion

1. Describe Wendel's personality.
2. Describe Big Buzz's personality.
3. Describe your personality. Are you more like Wendel or Big Buzz?
4. When did you know Wendel & Big Buzz would become friends?
5. How hard would it be for you to befriend someone who had taken something of yours?

Plot Development

1. How many times did Wendel discover the disappearance of books?
2. Why didn't Wendel ask any of his friends to help?
3. What was Wendel's first clue in the story that something was wrong?
3. Why did Big Buzz back off when Wendel stood up to him?

Vocabulary

1. Give the meaning of "persists." Make a sentence using the word.
2. Give the meaning of "heartbroken." Make a sentence using the word.
3. Give the meaning of "school custodian." Make a sentence using the word.
4. Give the meaning of "situation." Make a sentence using the word.
5. Give the meaning of "librarian." Make a sentence using the word.

Extra discussion:

Would students change the book ending, and if so, how?

After the visit: Educator evaluation encouraged, and *emails from students!*

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