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Activity Guide

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Henry and Mudge and Annie's Good Move

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ABOUT THE STORY

Henry really likes his cousin Annie, even though she is a little too careful with her lacy hankies and frilly dresses. When he hears that she is moving next door, he is thrilled. But Annie is terribly nervous about the move; in fact, she has broken out in big red blotches over it. How Henry and his dog Mudge calm Annie's nerves and help make the move a success makes this eighteenth Henry and Mudge book as much fun as all others.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Cynthia Rylant has written many other books about Henry and Mudge, including *Henry and Mudge and the Snowman Plan* and *Henry and Mudge and the Sneaky Crackers*, both Live Oak Readalongs. Her books have won dozens of awards; in 1993 she received the Newberry Award for her novel *Missing May*. She has always loved her big, drooly dogs, just like Mudge, and lives with two of them in her house in Eugene, Oregon.

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Sucie Stevenson knows all about big Mudge-like dogs, too – she has two of her own. She has illustrated all the other Henry and Mudge tales.

INTRODUCING THE STORY

Ask children if they have ever had the experience of moving. Have volunteers describe how they felt about moving. Then tell them that the book they will read is about a boy whose favorite cousin moves next door.

READING ACTIVITIES

Comprehension/Thinking Skills

- “What are some of the things Annie likes?”
- “How does Henry feel about Annie moving next door?”
- “How does Annie feel about the move?”
- “What does Henry do to make Annie feel better?”
- “What finally makes Annie's blotches go away?”
- “Why do you think Henry's actions made Annie feel better?” (Draw conclusions)
- “How do you think Annie and Henry will get along when they live next door? Why do you think so?” (Analyze)

Vocabulary

frilly	anxious; upset
thrilled	small handkerchiefs
nervous	trimmed with lace or ruffles
blotchy	very excited and happy
hankies	taken off; unpacked
unloaded	covered with red spots

Write these words and definitions on the chalkboard. Have the children copy them and draw lines to match each word with its definition. Then the children can use each word in a sentence.

CROSS-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Health: A Mean Game of Frisbee

If possible, allow children to learn how to play Frisbee, the game that Annie plays so well, outside. Provide several Frisbees for them to practice with. Show them how to throw a Frisbee, or have the physical education instructor show them how.

Language Arts: Identify the Wishes

Have the children look at the wishes Annie and her family have for their new house on pages 36-37. Ask them to write a sentence linking each wish with the person they think wished it. Have them explain in their sentences why they think the wish comes from that person.

Art: Draw Your Own Wish

Have children draw a picture of the wish they would have for a new house. Encourage them to wish imaginatively. They can wish for anything they can think of. Display children's wishes around the classroom.

Language Arts: What Makes You Nervous?

Annie gets so nervous about moving that she breaks out in blotches. Ask children to write a paragraph telling what makes them the most nervous. They can describe what triggers their nerves and tell how they react to it. Allow children to keep their descriptions private if they wish to.

INTERNET ACTIVITY

Before you send children to do research using any of the keywords listed below, you may wish to try them yourself to be sure the sites are suitable.

Moving tips

Have children search the Internet using the keywords *moving tips* to find advice for moving. Ask them to write down the advice they think would be most useful for a successful move. Collect the advice in a folder and make it available to any children who are planning a move.