Storytime Activity Guide

The Rabbit Listened
by Cori Doerrfeld

When Taylor’s marvelous tower is knocked down, Taylor is upset. Taylor’s animal friends try to help; the bear wants to yell, the elephant wants to remember, but none of it helps. Finally the quiet rabbit shows up and sits quietly next to Taylor and just listens—which is exactly what Taylor needed.

Did you know?
In The Rabbit Listened, children learn about different feelings and reactions to upsetting situations. Getting along with others, recognizing feelings, and expressing them appropriately is all part of social-emotional understanding.

Talk about it!
Help your child develop social-emotional skills by looking at the animal’s faces and actions. Talk about how this helps us understand the different feelings.

• When you are upset, which animal do you feel like the most?
• What animal do you feel like when you’re sad? What animal do you feel like when you are happy?
• When the rabbit listens, it helps Taylor feel better. What helps you feel better when you are upset?

Play: (activity with no materials)
Taylor meets a lot of different animals in the book and each one has a different strategy of what to do to make Taylor feel better. Pretend to be the animals you see in the book and try out their ideas. Then think of other animals and act out new ideas of what they might do if they were upset. For example, roar like a bear, run like a cheetah, or fly away like a bird.

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All resources can be found at: tandembayarea.org

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Create!

**Materials needed:**
- 3 paper plates
- Crayons or writing utensil
- Safety scissors
- Mirror or a person

Part of **social-emotional development** is understanding what different emotions look like. Create mix-and-match feelings masks and practice identifying different emotions.

1. First, draw a dotted line down the middle of each paper plate.

2. Think of an emotion and make a face that matches the emotion. Use a mirror to see what these emotions look like. When you are angry, how do your eyebrows, eyes, nose, and mouth look?

3. Draw this emotion on the paper plate, with the eyes and nose above the dotted line, and mouth below the dotted line.

4. Repeat steps 2 and 3 for two more emotions. Some emotion ideas include: excited, tired, Jealous, anxious, nervous, angry, sad, happy, etc.

5. Cut all of the paper plates in half along the dotted lines so that you have 6 half circles.

6. Mix and match the eye and mouth expressions. Do they create different emotions? Talk about what emotions you see now and what sort of things make you feel that way. What might you do to make yourself feel better?