

## Curriculum Guide

# The Pigeon Will Ride the Roller Coaster!

Book by Mo Willems.

The Pigeon  
Will Ride the  
Roller Coaster!



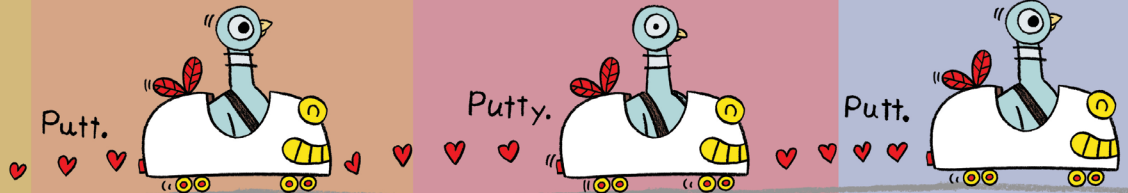
words and pictures by mo willems

## SUMMARY

Ever since he first heard about roller coasters (ten minutes ago,) Pigeon has been totally psyched! But the ride isn't the only roller coaster Pigeon that's throwing Pigeon for a loop. From excitement and fear to patience and bravery, Pigeon will feel it all as he gears up for a wild ride!

## THEMES

Emotions, Birds, Humor



## COMMON CORE CONNECTIONS\*

### CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.10

Actively engage in group reading activities with purpose and understanding.

### CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.K.3

Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to narrate a single event or several loosely linked events, tell about the events in the order in which they occurred, and provide a reaction to what happened.

### CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.K.2

Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.

## MATERIALS

- Easel/whiteboard and markers
- A.V. equipment
- *The Pigeon Will Ride the Roller Coaster* movie
- *The Pigeon Will Ride the Roller Coaster* book
- Paper plates (2 per students)
- Liquid kraft glue
- Popsicle sticks (1 per student)

\*The Common Core State Standards addressed by the discussion questions and activities in this guide are noted throughout. For more information on the Common Core, visit [corestandards.org](http://corestandards.org).



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## Activities



### OBJECTIVES

- Students will participate in a collaborative literature discussion in which they recount key details from the text.
- Students will write a brief, illustrated narrative detailing how they felt last time they did something brave.

### BEFORE VIEWING ACTIVITIES

Gather the class into a discussion circle. Explain to the students that they will be viewing an exciting movie about all the different emotions that we feel when we do something brave.

In order to engage the students in the topic, play a pantomime game. Ask the whole class to show you their best “play” version of various emotions. This may include:

- Happiness
- Laughter/Amusement
- Annoyance
- Excitement
- Nervousness
- Curiosity
- Bravery

Before starting the movie, prompt the class to take note of all the different emotions that Pigeon feels throughout the story.

### AFTER VIEWING ACTIVITIES

Begin a class discussion about the film. Consider using the following prompts:

- What was your favorite part of the movie?
- Has anybody ever been on a roller coaster? If so, how did you feel?
- When was the last time you did something really brave?
- How did you feel?
- Did you relate to how Pigeon felt about doing something brave?
- What different emotions did Pigeon feel throughout the story?
- How did Pigeon deal with all the different emotions that he was feeling?

**(CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.10)**

Following the discussion, explain that students will be making a craft based on bravery. Each student will receive two paper plates. On the front of one plate, students will write a brief prompt using the following structure: The last time I did something really brave was \_\_\_\_\_. At first I felt \_\_\_\_\_. After, I felt \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_.

After completing their prompt on the first plate, students will draw a self-portrait on the front of the other plate. The portrait should depict how they felt about doing something brave (before or after they did it).

**(CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.K.3)**

As students work, circulate the room and assist in the writing process. Help students create a narrative that follows standard English language conventions.

**(CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.K.2)**

When students complete both of their plates, glue the backs of the plates together with a popsicle stick in the middle. This will create a handheld mask that they can take home and share with their loved ones!

### OTHER TITLES BY MO WILLEMS

- Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!
- Knuffle Bunny: A Cautionary Tale
- Duckling Gets A Cookie!?
- Pigeon Finds A Hot Dog!