



Blue Sky Yellow Kite

by Janet A. Holmes & Jonathan Bentley

This is a sweet and whimsical story about Daisy, William and the yellow kite. It will please both adults and children. The descriptions are elegant and the illustrations really draw you into the scene. A yellow kite takes centre stage but both Daisy and William enjoy flying the kite. Preschoolers will benefit from time to observe the beautiful illustrations as they form a vital part of telling the story.



Key Message for Parents:

Children's self-regulation is critical for learning, responsibility and relationships

For children to have successful relationships and be able to navigate their way through life they need to develop self-regulation skills early on. This story is a gentle reminder about appropriate behaviours and shows the ability that children have to be able to start or stop doing something even if they don't want to. It is impossible to predict every situation so responding to children in difficult situations is vital to their success in developing self-control. Allowing children a variety of experiences so they can test their own responsibility and involvement is important in allowing them to develop their own ways to manage their feelings.

Story time is a great opportunity for children to practice appropriate behaviours. Creating a supportive and stimulating environment where children can practice their emerging social skills is extremely important to their development. Encourage parents and carers to role model the appropriate behaviours. For story time, it would be:

- to sit where you can see the book, making sure others are also able to see
- Turn off or silent distractions such as a mobile phone. Children look to their parents or carers for guidance, if adults pay attention it will positively encourage

Learning Outcomes - Outcome 1: Children have a strong sense of Identity

Children will learn about themselves in the context of their community. Amongst their family, friends and community children begin to develop their own identity. It is with rich experiences that children are given the chance to understand relationships and where they might find themselves among them all. Guiding children to make decisions that best suit their own needs is sometimes difficult for adults as it may be a different response to one of our choosing however it is important that each child has a sense of agency and individual style and personality and that we allow them to make the best choice for them.

Find booklists, tip sheets, nursery rhymes and activity and learning time sheets @

thelittlebigbookclub.com.au





Themes within this story

- Friendship
- forgiveness
- play

Welcome

Ask carers to write nametags for themselves and their children.

Welcome everyone, introduce yourself, remind adults to turn their mobile phones off and that there will be time for adults to chat after the story and songs.

Welcome Song (or your preferred song)

Have the words available as a handout or written on a board or butcher's paper for the adults to read and join in.

Good Morning

Good morning to you

Good morning to you

Good morning everybody

and welcome to you!



Song

Let's go fly a kite - from Mary Poppins

With tuppence for paper and strings

You can have your own set of wings

With your feet on the ground

You're a bird in flight

With your fist holding tight

To the string of your kite

Oh, oh, oh!

Let's go fly a kite

Up to the highest height!

Let's go fly a kite and send it soaring

Up through the atmosphere

Up where the air is clear

Oh, let's go fly a kite!

When you send it flyin' up there

All at once you're lighter than air

You can dance on the breeze

Over 'ouses and trees

With your first 'olding tight

To the string of your kite

Oh, oh, oh!

Let's go fly a kite

Up to the highest height!

Check out YouTube for video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xEnbREt0QKg>



Before Reading

Explain to parents that this book is a great way to discuss desire, guilt and forgiveness. These are all very normal feelings and emotions, sharing stories with these themes are a perfect way to introduce these feelings in a safe and meaningful way.

Daisy likes Williams' kite but will she do the right thing when playing with it? Prepare the parents to engage their child and to ask them what they would do in Daisy's situation. This book is beautifully illustrated and if the children are paying attention they may find some extra pieces to the story.

During Reading

Ask children if they have ever flown a kite before. Ask them about the best weather for a kite and see if they can point out on the page anything that tells us it is a good day for kite flying.

When Daisy runs away with the kite and doesn't look back, take a moment from the book and encourage parents to ask their child a question. For example:

- Where do you think Daisy is taking the kite?
- Whose kite is it?
- What should Daisy do with the kite?

Asking children to consider and be aware of others needs and rights is useful in assisting the development of their own sense of agency. Using books to discuss some familiar struggles like sharing, desire and guilt can be an easy way for parents to bring up these topics.

After Reading

Allow time for parents and children to discuss what Daisy did and also what William did. Despite having the right to feel upset William chose to be kind to Daisy and together they made another kite. Ask what your child would have done in this situation.

Activity Time

Kite Decorations

Decorate your space to celebrate the children who attend Storytime, fill the walls and windows with bright and vibrant kites.

What you need

- coloured paper- tissue paper works well
- scissors
- string
- glue
- crepe paper
- contact
- straws
- decorations e.g. feathers, sequins, glitter etc.

What to do

- cut out 2 kite shapes (quadrilateral) from clear or transparent contact.
- tape the non-sticky contact side of one piece to the table and remove the paper backing
- decorate the kite with any flat objects you can find and create a border by sticking thin strips of paper along the edges.
- lay some ribbons to make the kite tail sticking out of the kite
- lay the second piece of contact on top of the decorated piece and press down
- display on a window or wall.





Extension ideas:

- design your own kite and fly it down at the local park
- encourage children to work together with others to make something to play with
- colour treasure hunt - choose a colour and give your child a basket or tray to place small items from around the house of the chosen colour onto.

Goodbye

Conclude the session with some suggestions of books that parents might want to share with their children. The Little Big Book Club suggests the following books to support learning in this area:

- ***My Two Blankets*** by Irina Kobald and Freya Blackwood
- ***Somewhere Else*** by Gus Gordon
- ***Penguin*** by Polly Dunbar
- ***The Wrong Book*** by Nick Bland

Goodbye Song

Depending on the size of your group, you may wish to insert each child's name in the place of 'you' as it develops a more personal relationship between yourself, the child and the family.

Sung to the tune of (*Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush*) **or** your preferred choice.

Goodbye

This is the way we say goodbye (use a waving action)

Say goodbye, say goodbye

This is the way we say goodbye

To all our library friends (or) (to our friend.....)!

