



Otis & Peanut

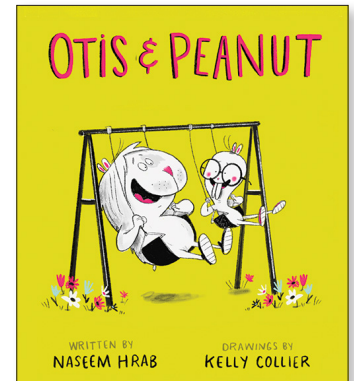
Discussion and Activity Guide by Naseem Hrab and Kelly Collier

About the Book

A long-haired guinea pig and a naked mole rat may seem like unlikely friends, but Otis and Peanut are a perfect pair!

In three stories told in graphic-novel form, Otis and Peanut explore themes of loss, fear of change, and cooperation, while demonstrating what it means to be a supportive and caring friend. In “The Haircut,” Otis worries about getting a haircut because he’s afraid he’ll look so different that he’ll no longer be himself. In “The Swing,” Peanut helps Otis come to terms with missing a beloved friend. And in “The House,” Otis struggles to make his house a home but succeeds with Peanut’s help.

Otis and Peanut are brought to life with delightful comic illustrations from Kelly Collier, and author Naseem Hrab’s humor and sensitivity shines through in each tale of true friendship. The author-illustrator team of *How to Party Like a Snail* serves up laugh-out-loud moments, profound life lessons, and a new iconic literary duo that kids will love.



Written by Naseem Hrab,
illustrated by Kelly Collier

Before Reading

- What are the essential qualities of a good friend?
- How would you support a friend who is feeling sad?
- What is the difference between a place where you live (i.e, a dwelling) and a home?

After Reading

- How would you describe Otis?
- How would you describe Peanut?
- Can you relate to Otis or Peanut? Why or why not?
- Why is Otis worried about getting a haircut?

(Continued on next page)



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CURRICULUM LINKS

Language Arts: Reading;
Character Education
SEL: Self-Awareness; Social
Awareness; Belonging

READING LEVELS

Grade: 2
Fountas & Pinnell: K
Reading Recovery: 20
Lexile® Measure: GN 480L
COMMON CORE: RL.2, W.2,
SL.2, L.2



After Reading (continued)

- Does Peanut tend to worry about the same things as Otis?
- Why does Otis miss Pearl?
- Have you ever missed a friend or family member before? What does it feel like to miss someone you care about? What could you do to make yourself feel better?
- What are different ways one can be a supportive and kind friend?
- What are some ways that Otis makes his house feel like home?
- What makes the place where you live feel like home to you?

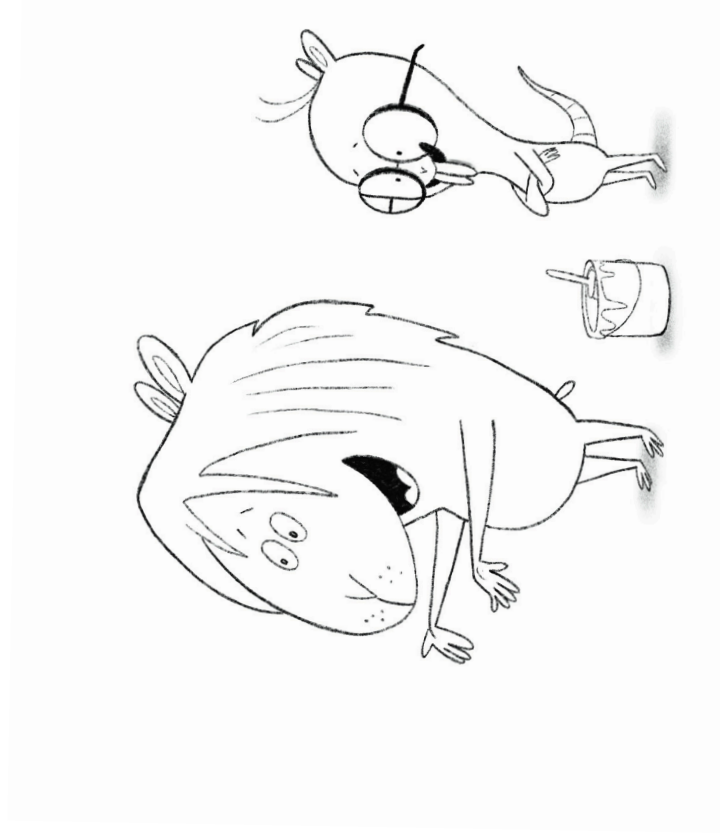
Activities

Otis did all sorts of things to make his house a home and now it's your turn to think of all the ways you can make a dwelling feel like ... *your* home!

- Draw your dream home.
- What kind of dwelling is it? An apartment, a mobile home, a townhouse, a house, etc.
- Where is it? Is it in a busy, bustling place or a quiet, calm place? Is it in a city or somewhere remote?
- Does it have a front yard? A backyard? A garden? Is it close to a park or a field?
- Is it big, or is it little? How many rooms does it have?
- Who else lives there?
- Will you decorate it? What colors are you going to paint the outside? How about the inside?
- What will make you feel comfortable and safe in your home?
- How will you take care of it? How will you keep it tidy and clean?
- How will you spend your time in your home? What will you do?



Draw Your Dream House!



Color Otis & Peanut's Picnic

