



Discussion Guide

Otis & Peanut Forever and Ever

by Naseem Hrab and illustrated by Kelly Collier



About the Book

The second book in the Otis & Peanut junior graphic novel series explores themes of celebrating life's simple pleasures, grief, and making new memories with sensitivity, humor, and optimism.

The three stories in this book reveal how the pair feel the loss of Pearl, Peanut's sister and Otis's friend. In "The Cake," Peanut bakes a sweet treat for Otis using Pearl's recipe and teaches him that there's always a good reason to eat cake—even if it's for no reason at all! In "The Dream," Peanut is missing his sister, but finds a way to keep her memory close. And in "The Collection," the two friends celebrate old memories, and make some new ones.

Poignant, funny, and sweeter than a slice of Pearl's Strawberry Layer Cake, *Otis & Peanut Forever and Ever* is a treat to be enjoyed at any time.



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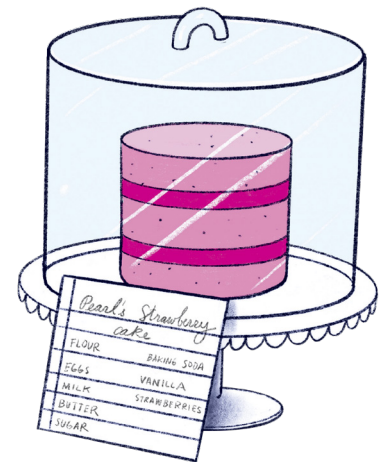
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illustrated by Kelly Collier

Before Reading

- What does the word *memory* mean? Why are memories important?
- What happens when we forget a memory?
- What are some ways you can prevent yourself from forgetting your favorite memories?

After Reading

- How would you describe Otis?
- How would you describe Peanut?
- Can you relate to Otis or Peanut? Why or why not?
- Why does Otis want to save Pearl's Strawberry Layer Cake for later?
- Why does Peanut want to eat Pearl's Strawberry Layer Cake right away?
- How do Otis and Peanut compromise about when to eat the cake?
- In *The Dream*, what items and moments remind Peanut of Pearl?
- Who is Pearl? Why do Otis and Peanut miss her so much?
- What are the different ways Otis and Peanut collect their favorite memories? Why do they collect their favorite memories?



READING LEVELS

Grade: I+, Fountas & Pinnell: G, Reading Recovery: I I, Common Core: RL.I, W.I, SL.I, L.I

CURRICULUM LINKS

Language Arts: Reading; Character Education, Social-Emotional Learning: Character Development



Activities

Otis and Peanut have all kinds of memories about Pearl and each other that they save in safe places. Now, it's your turn to think of all your happiest memories that you share with your favorite friends and family members and collect them so they won't fade away.

- Think of a favorite friend and/or family member.
- List all your favorite characteristics about them.
- List all the different big and small memories you have of them. For example,
 - when and where you first met them
 - activities you've done with each other
 - celebrations you've enjoyed together
 - places you've visited together
 - kind things they've said to you
 - jokes you've shared with one another
 - whatever else you can remember that's important to you!
- You can express these memories by writing them down using words and drawings. You can also collect photos, souvenirs, cards, toys, and other objects that are important to you.
- Then you can store your memories in a journal, a scrapbook like Otis, or a box like Peanut.
- Be sure to save your memories—whether they're in a scrapbook, box, or a journal—in a safe place so that you can look at them whenever you want.

When you're feeling sad and even when you're feeling happy, your memory collection will always keep your heart warm.



Color in and draw your favorite memory or a person you will always want to remember in the frames below. Or, feel free to tape or glue an object that reminds you of a special memory.

