



Story of the Week

"Odd Dog Out" by Rob Biddulph

Online link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sRlnfumrX3s>

How the Book Can Support Children's Learning

Health and Wellbeing:

- Exploring the theme of being "you" and building confidence in your own decisions.
- self-awareness, self-worth and respect for others.
- Talk about differences and the value that differences bring to a community.

Literacy:

- Encouraging your child to listen to a story from beginning to end.
- Talking about the characters in the story and what happens.
- Talking about a favourite part of a story.
- *Looking at and talking about the illustrations*
- Predicting what might happen next in the story.
- Retelling a story in own words with or without puppets/props.
- Making up your own story through role play, drawing pictures or writing.
- Talking about the rhyming words in the story and finding some rhyming words of your own.

Numeracy:

- Pointing and counting items up to 10.
- Using number names up to 10.
- Using mathematical language - How many? How many altogether?
- If there was one more, how many would there be?
- Talking about and recognising simple patterns.
- Using mathematical language.....bigger/ smaller
- Recognising similarities and differences between things / sorting and matching activities

Possible Home Learning Experiences Linked to the Story

Things to talk about:

- Look at the front cover of the book and discuss what you think it might be about.
- Think about what the dogs look like and find words to describe them. Talk about any similarities and differences.
- Do you have a pet at home? Do you know anyone with a pet? Is it the same as the one in the book or different?
- Talk about recognising, understanding and celebrating differences.
- Encourage your child to talk about what makes them special. What things are they good at? What things do they enjoy doing/ eating/ playing? Do they always enjoy the same things as their friends and family or do they enjoy doing different things.
- Respecting and valuing others decisions.

Think about Odd Dog Out at the start of the story, how is she feeling? What has made her feel like that?

- Have you ever felt like Odd Dog Out? What made you feel that way and what helped you feel better?
- How do you think the other dogs felt when Odd Dog Out left on her journey?

Odd Dog Out went on a journey to find somewhere she would be the same. She soon realised that she missed home and standing out from the crowd. She loved who she was.

- What do you love about yourself?
- Where feels like home to you? (Being with family, friends, nursery or out in the community)
- What transport did Odd Dog Out travel on?

Odd Dog travelled through all the seasons

- What could you see in each picture to help you identify the seasons?
- What is your favourite time of year and why?

Did you notice the rhyming in the book?

- Practise the rhyming words together and see if you can come up with some more.

Things to do:

- *Share the story every day.*
- *Create a den to read in and add props that could go along with the story. (Scarf, hat, types of transport)*
- *Celebrate being me. Create an image of yourself. You can design yourself in any way you want. Talk about why you are unique and individual. Think about being creative with what you already have around the house. (Chalk, paints, crayons, pencils, pens, fabric.)*
- *Make a box with all the things that are special to you. You could add photos of your family, a favourite book, a favourite toy, the wrapper of a favourite sweet, a medal or certificate of something you achieved or were proud of.....*
- *Create a few different dogs and talk about similarities and differences. This could be on paper with pens, pencils, crayons or use junk modelling. (Anything you have in the house)*
- *Use playdough or clay to create your own dog. Is it a long or short? Tall or small? Does it have a big tail or small? How many legs does it have? Make sure and chat while creating your dog and lots of learning can come from this.*
- *Make patterns using paint, crayons, coloured pencils, stickers or things you find outdoors.*
- *Look at pictures of dogs, talk about size, colour, how they might feel.*
- *Look for pictures of different dogs in magazines, cut them out and sort them into groups.*
- *Find a picture of a dog in an old magazine. Cut it into pieces to make your own jigsaw puzzle. Can you put it back together again?*
- *When out on local walks see if you can spot any dogs, try to use descriptive words when talking about them.*
- *Play matching games together like Pairs, Snap or Bingo.*
- *Use a potato to carve paw prints, make a couple of different ones and use paint to print onto paper. Have a look at the size and shape, can you spot any differences?*

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