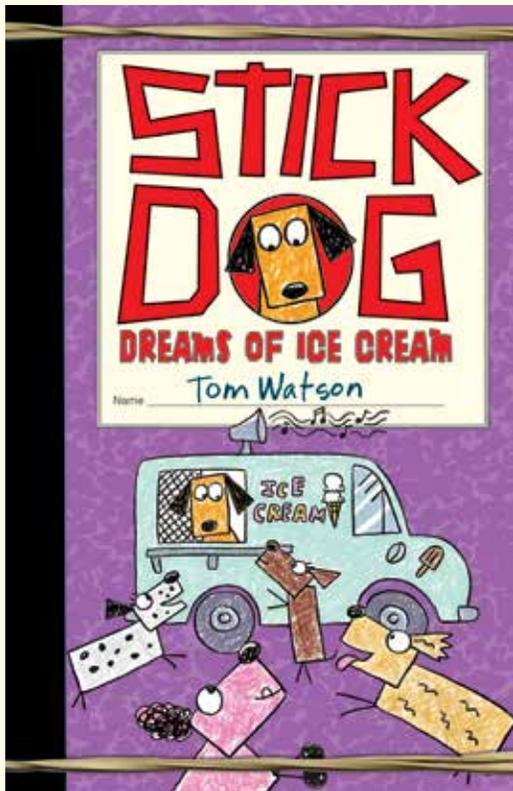
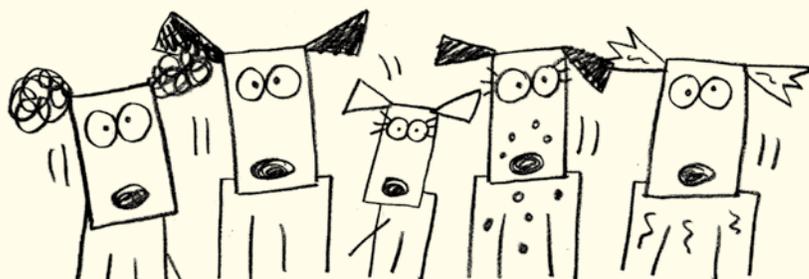


STICK DOG DREAMS OF ICE CREAM



About the Book:

In *Stick Dog Dreams of Ice Cream* Stick Dog returns, ready for more food and fun—along with his hilarious friends Karen, Mutt, Stripes, and Poo-Poo. As the dogs try to beat the heat, they encounter a strange beast: a truck with annoying music that makes rainbow puddles. Those rainbow puddles of ice cream are so delicious, the dogs have to find a way to drink more and more. Stick Dog comes up with a great ice cream scheme, but police are on his tail. This time, it'll take all of Stick Dog's smarts to fill the gang's tummies.



Discussion Questions:

1. Using examples from the story, describe Stick Dog. What are the similarities and differences between him and the other dogs? What makes him a better problem solver than his friends? How does he respond to the problems he faces? How does his problem solving affect the overall story?

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Literature): RL.3.1., RL.4.1., RL.5.1., RL.6.1., RL.3.3., RL.4.3., RL.5.3., RL.6.3.

2. What do you learn about the narrator in this story? How would you characterize the narrator? How does he or she offer a different perspective of the story from the characters' perspectives? Is your perspective of the story's events similar to or different from the narrator's? How? What words or phrases has the author used to create the narrator's point of view and make it distinctive?

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Literature): RL.3.1., RL.4.1., RL.5.1., RL.6.1., RL.3.6., RL.5.6., RL.6.6.

3. Many descriptions in this story relay clues about the setting. Look closely at chapter 1, as well as chapters 3 and 9. What do you learn about the setting in these chapters? What might you infer about the setting from what the dogs say and do, as well as where they travel?

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Literature): RL.3.1., RL.4.1., RL.5.1., RL.6.1.

4. What do the illustrations tell you about the characters and story? How do the illustrations contribute to the tone of the story? Do the illustrations show what's specifically stated in the tale? If so, what? If not, what do they show that isn't told through words?

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Literature): RL.3.7., RL.4.7., RL.5.7. Common Core State Standards (Speaking and Listening) also addressed by all questions: SL.3.1a-d., SL.4.1a-d., SL.5.1a-d., SL.6.1a-d., SL.3.6., SL.4.6., SL.5.6., SL.6.6.

STICK DOG DREAMS OF ICE CREAM



Activities:

1. **Curiosity Counts!** Curiosity gets Stick Dog and his pals into trouble, but it also helps them find great eats. Think of a time when your curiosity either helped you or caused a lot of trouble in your life. Brainstorm the sequence of events that resulted from your curiosity. Once you've listed all your ideas, write your curiosity tale. Revise and polish it to completion. Then share your "Curiosity Counts!" story with your friends.

Common Core State Standards (Writing): W.3.3a., W.3.3b., W.3.3c., W.3.3d., W.4.3a., W.4.3b., W.4.3c., W.4.3d., W.4.3e., W.5.3a., W.5.3b., W.5.3c., W.5.3d., W.5.3e., W.6.3a., W.6.3b., W.6.3c., W.6.3d., W.6.3e.

2. **What's Best for Stick Dog?** Stick Dog and his friends live on their own, finding food and exploring the world. Is this the best way for a dog to live? Should Stick Dog and the gang live with people instead? Using evidence from this story, craft a pro and con list. Then determine your answer and write an opinion piece on "What's Best for Stick Dog?". Display your completed work in your classroom or library.

Common Core State Standards (Writing): W.3.1a., W.3.1b., W.3.1c., W.3.1d., W.4.1a., W.4.1b., W.4.1c., W.4.1d., W.5.1a., W.5.1b., W.5.1c., W.5.1d., W.6.1a., W.6.1b., W.6.1c., W.6.1d., W.6.1e.



3. **Dog Words.** In chapter 3, Poo-Poo uses a number of words and phrases that show how he sees the world, like "acorn-munching chatter-mouth" and "nutty-breathed tail-shaker" (p. 26; 28). Consider how he might describe items in your classroom, library, and school cafeteria. Then write a short description of an area in your school using your Dog Words. Ask to post the description on your class blog so everyone can enjoy it. Common Core State Standards (Writing): W.3.10., W.4.10., W.5.10., W.6.10.

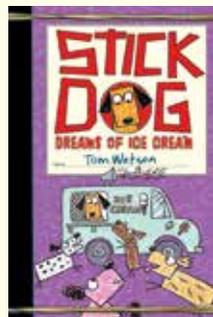
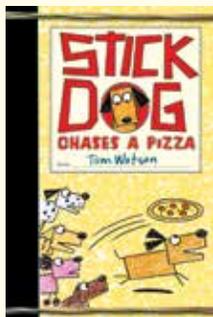
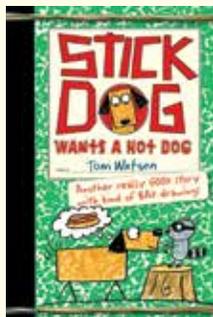
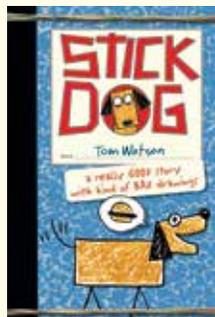
4. **The ABSOLUTE Best.** Which illustration in *Stick Dog Dreams of Ice Cream* is your favorite? Why? How does the illustration help tell the story or show something important about the characters? How does it help contribute to the tone of the story? Once you've determined the answers to these questions, write a short opinion piece on the illustration. Let all your friends know why you think that one is "The ABSOLUTE Best."

Core State Standards (Writing): W.3.3a., W.3.3b., W.3.3c., W.3.3d., W.4.3a., W.4.3b., W.4.3c., W.4.3d., W.4.3e., W.5.3a., W.5.3b., W.5.3c., W.5.3d., W.5.3e., W.6.3a., W.6.3b., W.6.3c., W.6.3d., W.6.3e.

Common Core State Standards (Writing) also addressed by most activities: W.3.4., W.4.4., W.5.4., W.6.4., W.3.5., W.4.5., W.5.5., W.6.5.

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