

MARTHA SPEAKS™

Reading Buddies Program

Big Buddy Guide

Reading Buddies Chart

This handy chart shows you the plans for each session. Look for more details in the guide.

Watch Together	Play Together	Read Together	Write Together
1. Martha and Skits special words: extraordinary, stupendous, talent, unique	Game: Choose and Chat	Write in the title of your book:	Reading Buddies Journal: What does Martha see that is so extraordinary?
2. Martha to the Rescue special words: hero, rescue, brave, courageous	Activity: Make a SuperPup Puppet	Write in the title of your book:	Reading Buddies Journal: If you were a superhero, what courageous thing would you do?
3. Firedog Martha special words: fantasy, real, pretend, actually	Game: Tic-Tac-Talk— Fantasy or Real?	Write in the title of your book:	Reading Buddies Journal: Make up two stories, one fantasy and one real: <i>One day I was walking down the street and I saw...</i>
4. Martha in Charge special words: remedy, recuperate, healthy, cure	Game: Choose and Chat	Write in the title of your book:	Reading Buddies Journal: Write about a time that you felt sick. What helped you recuperate?
5. Perfectly Martha special words: obey, disobey, obedient, disobedient	Game: Skits's Tricks at pbskids.org/martha Try to meet in the library or computer lab for this session.	Write in the title of your book:	Reading Buddies Journal: Write in Martha's journal. <i>Today, I was a disobedient dog. This is what I did.</i> <i>Tomorrow, I will be an obedient dog. This is what I will do.</i>
6. Martha Walks the Dog special words: pleasant, unpleasant, compliment, bully	Game: Choose and Chat	Write in the title of your book:	Reading Buddies Journal: Bob's owner is giving Bob compliments. What is he saying? Write the words.
7. Martha Calling special words: allowed, permitted, forbidden, rule	Game: Tic-Tac-Talk— Name the Rule!	Write in the title of your book:	Reading Buddies Journal: Write a rule: No ___ allowed! Draw a picture sign to go with your rule.
8. There Goes the Neighborhood special words: buddy, ignore, prejudice, tolerate	Game: Choose and Chat	Write in the title of your book:	Reading Buddies Journal: Write a note to your buddy.
9. Dog Fight special words: bicker, quarrel, negotiate, truce	Game: Truce!	Write in the title of your book:	Reading Buddies Journal: What can Martha and Skits share?
10. Martha Says It with Flowers special words: considerate, inconsiderate, thoughtful, sincere	Activity: Make a Thank-You Card	Write in the title of your book:	Reading Buddies Journal: Who would you make a birthday basket for?

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Welcome to the MARTHA SPEAKS Reading Buddies Program

Thanks for being a Big Buddy! You will be helping a younger student, your Little Buddy, understand and use new vocabulary words.

Learning new words through listening and speaking is very important for young kids. When kids start reading by themselves and “meet” these words in books, they will know what the words mean. The more words young kids know, the better they do in school.

Each time you meet with your Little Buddy, you will:

1. Watch a MARTHA SPEAKS show together. The show introduces four “special” words—the new vocabulary words.
2. Talk a little bit about the show, using some of the special words.
3. Play a game or do an activity together that uses the four special words.
4. Read a book to your Little Buddy. You’ll be using the same four special words to talk about the book together.
5. Write and draw together in your *Reading Buddies Journal*. Each *Journal* page will tell you what to do.

Before you meet with your Little Buddy, you will work with another Big Buddy. Together, you will go through each session in your *Big Buddy Guide*. You will review the special words and gather materials. Then you will play the game and read the book as if you were with your Little Buddy. By practicing with another Big Buddy, you will know exactly what to do with your Little Buddy.

We hope you enjoy being a Big Buddy!



Martha and Skits

Session 1

About the Story

A new puppy has joined Martha's family. His name is Skits.

Will Skits grow up to be extraordinary and unique like Martha?

Special Words

extraordinary: *Extraordinary* means amazing, unusual, not at all ordinary.

stupendous: Something that is *stupendous* is terrific, really great.

talent: A *talent* is something that you are very good at, like drawing or whistling.

You can show off your talent at a talent show!

unique: Something that is *unique* is one-of-a-kind, different, not like anything else.

Materials

Game: Choose and Chat

Book: _____

Reading Buddies Journal

Pencils, markers

Watch Together: "Martha and Skits"

- Watch the show with your Little Buddy.
- Listen for the "special" words.
- Find a place where you and your Little Buddy can talk, play, and read together.

Talk and Play Together

Ask your Little Buddy:

- What special **talent** makes Martha **unique** and **extraordinary**? (She can talk.)
- Can Skits talk, too? (No.) What is his special talent? (Catching flying objects.)
- Would you rather have a dog like Martha, or a dog like Skits as a pet? Why?

Game: Choose and Chat

1. Place the eight game cards face down on a desk or on the floor.
2. Explain the rules to your Little Buddy.
 - Your Little Buddy will choose a card.
 - You will then read the card aloud.
 - Both you and your Little Buddy will answer the question or follow the directions on the card.
3. Try to use one of the special words in your answers. For example, you might say: *I am **unique** because I have three freckles in a row on my arm.*
4. Take turns choosing cards until all eight cards have been played.

Before meeting with your Little Buddy, work with your Big Buddy partner to:

- Read and role-play the session plan.
- Cut out the cards and play the Choose and Chat game.
- Read the selected book aloud. Ask and answer the questions.
- Review the *Journal* activity.

Read Together

Read the story aloud. Then talk about the following questions with your Little Buddy. This is a chance to use some of the special words from the MARTHA SPEAKS show!

- Does one of the characters in this book have a unique talent? If so, describe it.
- What was the most stupendous or extraordinary part of this story?
- Show me your favorite picture in the book. What do you like best about it?

Write Together

Show your Little Buddy the *Reading Buddies Journal*. You can each write your name on the cover. Decorate the cover with a photo of you and your Little Buddy, a drawing of yourselves, or some other decoration.

- Open the *Reading Buddies Journal* to Session 1. Read what Martha is saying.
- Ask, What does Martha see that is so **extraordinary**? Make up an answer together. Try to use one of the special words in your answer (see the bottom of the *Journal* page).
- Write the answer in the *Journal*. (One or two sentences is great.)
- With your Little Buddy, draw a picture in the bubble to go with your story.

Stupendous!



Martha to the Rescue

Session 2

About the Story

Martha wants to be just like her favorite TV star, Courageous Collie Carlo. Can Martha prove that she can also be a brave doggy hero?

Special Words

hero: A *hero* is someone you think is wonderful, someone you admire.

rescue: To *rescue* someone means to save him or her from danger.

brave: Being *brave* means doing something good, even though you're afraid.

courageous: Someone who is *courageous* is very brave.

Materials

Activity: Make a SuperPup Puppet

Book: _____

Reading Buddies Journal

Paper lunch bags (2), colored paper, scissors, markers, tape or glue stick

Watch Together: "Martha to the Rescue"

- Watch the show with your Little Buddy.
- Listen for the "special" words.
- Find a place where you and your Little Buddy can talk, play, and read together.

Talk and Play Together

Ask your Little Buddy:

- What did Helen do that was really **brave**?
- At the end of the show, did you think Martha was a **hero**? Why or why not?
- What does **courageous** mean?
- Try saying this tongue twister three times with your Little Buddy: *Courageous Collie Carlo*

Activity: Make a SuperPup Puppet

You'll need a paper lunchbag, markers, scissors, colored paper, and tape or a glue stick.

1. Show your Little Buddy the SuperPup Puppet you have made. Follow the directions on the "Make a SuperPup Puppet" Activity Sheet to help your Little Buddy make his or her own.
2. Ask your Little Buddy, *What can our SuperPup heroes rescue?* Think up some ideas together and act them out, using the SuperPup Puppets. Try to use some of the special words. For example: *The **brave** heroes rescue a cat stuck in a tree!* or *The **courageous** SuperPups rescue a kid who is lost in the mall!*

Before meeting with your Little Buddy, work with your Big Buddy partner to:

- Read and role-play the session plan.
- Make a SuperPup puppet to show your Little Buddy.
- Read the selected book aloud. Ask and answer the questions.
- Review the *Journal* activity.

Read Together

Read the story aloud. At the end of the story, talk with your Little Buddy. Here are some questions to ask:

- Which character in this book was courageous?
- Do you think he or she was a hero? Why or why not?
- Show me your favorite picture in the book. What do you like best about it?

Write Together

- Open the *Reading Buddies Journal* to Session 2. Read the question to your Little Buddy: If you were a superhero, what **courageous** thing would you do?
- Help your Little Buddy make up an answer using the special word **rescue**.
- Write your Little Buddy's answer in the *Journal*.



My hero!

Firedog Martha

Session 3

About the Story

Martha's dream has come true. She's going to be a firedog. Maybe she will learn to slide down a fire pole and use a fire hose!

Special Words

fantasy: A *fantasy* is something you make up or imagine. A fantasy is not real.

real: Something that is *real* is true, not make-believe.

pretend: To *pretend* is to imagine or make something up.

actually: *Actually* means "really" or "truthfully"—something that is real actually happened.

Materials

Game: Tic-Tac-Talk

Book: _____

Reading Buddies Journal

Game pieces (5 in one color and 5 in a different color)

Watch Together: "Firedog Martha"

- Watch the show with your Little Buddy.
- Listen for the "special" words.
- Find a place where you and your Little Buddy can talk, play, and read together.

Talk and Play Together

Ask your Little Buddy:

- Martha thought firedogs had to wear firefighter clothes. Was that **fantasy** or **real**?
- How did Martha **actually** help the firefighters?
- What was your favorite part of the story?

Game: Tic-Tac-Talk—Fantasy or Real?

This game is like Tic-Tac-Toe, but you play until all the spaces are filled. There is no winner or loser.

1. Give your Little Buddy five game pieces of one color. Keep five game pieces of a different color for yourself.
2. Let your Little Buddy place a game piece on a picture. Ask your Little Buddy: *Is the picture **fantasy** or **real**?*
3. After your Little Buddy answers **fantasy** or **real**, ask, *Why?* Help your Little Buddy use the words **real**, **pretend**, or **actually** in his or her answer. For example: *Pigs don't **actually** fly. That's just **pretend**. Or **Real** kids can ride bikes.*
4. Now it's your turn to choose a picture. Your Little Buddy will ask you: *Is it **fantasy** or **real**? Why?* Use the word **real**, **pretend**, or **actually** in your answer.
5. Play the game until all the spaces are filled.

Before meeting with your Little Buddy, work with your Big Buddy partner to:

- Read and role-play the session plan.
- Play the Tic-Tac-Talk game.
- Read the selected book aloud. Ask and answer the questions.
- Review the *Journal* activity.

Read Together

Read the story aloud, then talk about it with your Little Buddy. This is a chance to use some of the special words from the MARTHA SPEAKS show. Ask:

- What was your favorite part of the story? What parts of the story were real and what parts were fantasy?
- Pretend that you were in this story. Which character would you want to be?
- Show me your favorite picture in the book. What do you like best about it?

Write Together

- Open the *Reading Buddies Journal* to Session 3.
- Tell your Little Buddy that together you are going to think up two little stories. One will be **fantasy** and one will be **real**. Both stories start the same way: *One day I was walking down the street and I saw ...*
- Let your Little Buddy think of something make-believe for the **fantasy** story and something everyday and ordinary for the **real** story.
- Write your Little Buddy's words in the *Journal*. If there is time, have your Little Buddy draw pictures to go with the stories.

It's my
fantasy
come true!

Martha in Charge

Session 4

About the Story

Mom is out and Helen is sick in bed, so Martha is in charge. She wants to find a cure for Helen. Maybe candy and pizza will help!

Special Words

remedy: A *remedy* is something that makes you feel better when you're sick.

recuperate: When you *recuperate* from a sickness, you feel better.

healthy: If you are *healthy*, you feel strong and good. *Healthy* is the opposite of sick.

cure: To *cure* someone means to help someone who is sick get well again.

Materials

Game: Choose and Chat

Book: _____

Reading Buddies Journal

Pencils, markers, scissors

Watch Together: "Martha in Charge"

- Watch the show with your Little Buddy.
- Listen for the "special" words.
- Find a place where you and your Little Buddy can talk, play, and read together.

Talk and Play Together

Ask your Little Buddy:

- What was your favorite part of the story?
- When Helen had a sore throat, her mom knew how to **cure** it. What did Helen's mom tell her to do?
- Did Helen **recuperate**?

Game: Choose and Chat

1. Place the eight game cards face down on a desk or on the floor.
2. Explain the rules to your Little Buddy:
 - Your Little Buddy will choose a card.
 - You will then read the card aloud.
 - Both you and your Little Buddy will answer the question on the card.
3. Try to use one of the special words in your answers. For example:
*Getting lots of sleep is a good **remedy** for a cold.*
4. Take turns choosing cards until all eight cards have been played.

Before meeting with your Little Buddy, work with your Big Buddy partner to:

- Read and role-play the session plan.
- Cut out the cards and play the Choose and Chat game.
- Read the selected book aloud. Ask and answer the questions.
- Review the *Journal* activity.

Read Together

Read the story aloud. Then talk about these questions with your Little Buddy. This is a chance to use the special words from the MARTHA SPEAKS show.

- Were any of the characters in this book sick? Did they recuperate?
- What remedies did the characters use to feel better?
- Show me your favorite picture in the book. What do you like best about it?

Write Together

- Open the Reading Buddies Journal to Session 4. Look at the picture.
- Ask: How was Helen feeling—**healthy** or **unhealthy**? What was wrong? What was Mom's **remedy** for Helen's sore throat? Did Helen **recuperate**?
- Read the Journal question to your Little Buddy: Tell about a time when you were sick. What helped you **recuperate**?
- Write your Little Buddy's answer in the Journal.



I have a
remedy.

Perfectly Martha

Session 5

About the Story

Martha thinks there is something fishy about the Perfect Pup Institute. All of the dogs are acting perfectly perfect. What's wrong with them?

Before meeting with your Little Buddy, work with your Big Buddy partner to:

- Read and role-play the session plan.
- Read the selected book aloud. Ask and answer the questions.
- If a computer is not available you can do just the *Reading Buddies Journal* activity instead or check with your teacher.
- Review the *Journal* activity.

Special Words

obey: Obey means to do what you are told to do.

disobey: Disobey means to *not* do what you are told. Disobey is the opposite of obey.

obedient: If you are *obedient*, you do what you are told.

disobedient: If you are *disobedient*, you *don't* do what you are told. Disobedient is the opposite of obedient.

Materials

Game: Skits's Tricks (This online game is on the MARTHA SPEAKS Web site at pbskids.org/martha.)

Book: _____

Reading Buddies Journal

Pencils, markers

Watch Together: "Perfectly Martha"

- Watch the show with your Little Buddy.
- Listen for the "special" words.
- Find a place where you and your Little Buddy can talk, play, and read together.

Talk and Play Together

Talk about these questions with your Little Buddy. Share your ideas, too.

- What was your favorite part of the story?
- Why did the dogs in the Perfect Pup Institute **obey** so perfectly?
- Do you think you would like to have a totally **obedient** dog? Why or why not?

Game: Skits's Tricks

Go to pbskids.org/martha and click on Games. Then click on the blue, white, and red ball. This will take you to Skits's Tricks, where you can help Skits retrieve a ball, climb a ramp, find a sock, and more!

Click play to begin. As you play, you'll learn some new words, such as *retrieve* and *catch*. You can also use some of the special words from this session with your buddy. Ask, *Is Skits an obedient dog? Can he retrieve a ball? Did Skits obey our directions?* If you do not have a computer, do the *Reading Buddies Journal* activity now, instead of the game.

Sometimes it's
hard to be
obedient.



Read Together

Read the story aloud. Use the words from the MARTHA SPEAKS show as you talk about these questions with your Little Buddy:

- Was there a character in this book who was disobedient? Describe what he or she did.
- Do you think this character will be obedient in the future? Why or why not?
- Show me your favorite picture in the book. What do you like best about it?

Write Together

- Open the *Reading Buddies Journal* to Session 5. Read the directions to your Little Buddy. Read the beginning of the first journal entry: *Today, I was a **disobedient** dog. This is what I did.*
- Say to your Little Buddy: **Pretend** you are Martha. What did you do today that was **disobedient**?
- Write your Little Buddy's words on the lines.
- Read the beginning of the second journal entry: *Tomorrow, I will be an **obedient** dog. This is what I will do.*
- Say to your Little Buddy: **Pretend** you are Martha. What will you do tomorrow to show that you are an **obedient** dog?
- Write your Little Buddy's words on the lines.



Martha Walks the Dog

Session 6

About the Story

There's a new dog in town and he is loud and mean! Steak, squeaky toys, soothing music—nothing seems to calm him down.

Special Words

pleasant: *Pleasant* things are nice. They make you happy.

unpleasant: *Unpleasant* things are not nice. They make you sad or angry.

compliment: A *compliment* is a nice thing that you say to someone, like: *Your drawing looks great!* Or *Good job!*

bully: A *bully* is someone who acts mean and bossy.

Materials

Game: Choose and Chat

Book: _____

Reading Buddies Journal

Pencils, markers, scissors

Watch Together: “Martha Walks the Dog”

- Watch the show with your Little Buddy.
- Listen for the “special” words.
- Find a place where you and your Little Buddy can talk, play, and read together.

Talk and Play Together

Talk about these questions with your Little Buddy. Share your ideas, too.

- Bob was a **bully** to Martha and Helen. What **unpleasant** things did he do?
- When the parrot began to give Bob **compliments**, Bob calmed down and got happy. What **pleasant** things did the parrot say to Bob?
- What was your favorite part of the story?

Game: Choose and Chat

1. Place the eight game cards face down on a desk or on the floor.
2. Explain the rules to your Little Buddy.
 - Your Little Buddy will choose a card. You will read the card aloud.
 - Both you and your Little Buddy will answer the question.
3. Try to use one of the special words in your answer. For example, *Getting a present would be a **pleasant** surprise.*
4. Take turns choosing cards until all eight cards have been played.

Before meeting with your Little Buddy, work with your Big Buddy partner to:

- Read and role-play the session plan.
- Cut out the cards and play the Choose and Chat game.
- Read the selected book aloud. Ask and answer the questions.
- Review the *Journal* activity.

Read Together

Read the story aloud. Use the special words from the MARTHA SPEAKS show as you talk about these questions with your Little Buddy. Share your ideas, too.

- What was the most unpleasant thing that happened in this story?
- Did any character act like a bully? Describe what the character did.
- Show me your favorite picture in the book. What do you like best about it?

Write Together

- Open the *Reading Buddies Journal* to Session 6. Look at the picture.
- Ask your Little Buddy: Do you think Bob's owner is saying **pleasant** or **unpleasant** things to Bob? Why do you think so?
- Read the instructions aloud: Bob's owner is giving Bob **compliments**. Bob thinks this is very **pleasant**! What is Bob's owner saying? Write the words.
- Write your Little Buddy's words in the *Journal*.



What a
bully!

Martha Calling

Session 7

About the Story

Martha has won a trip to the Come-On-Inn. There's only one problem. The rule at the inn is "No pets allowed."

Special Words

allowed: If something is *allowed*, it is okay for you to do it.

permitted: *Permitted* means the same as *allowed*; it's something that is okay to do.

forbidden: Something that is *forbidden* is *not* okay to do. It is against the rules. *Forbidden* is the opposite of *allowed*.

rule: A *rule* tells you what you can do and what you are not allowed to do.

Materials

Game: Tic-Tac-Talk

Book: _____

Reading Buddies Journal

Game pieces (5 in one color and 5 in a different color)

Watch Together: "Martha Calling"

- Watch the show with your Little Buddy.
- Listen for the "special" words.
- Find a place where you and your Little Buddy can talk, play, and read together.

Talk and Play Together

Talk with your Little Buddy. Share your ideas, too.

- *There are no pets allowed at the Come-On-Inn. Does Martha's family decide to **obey** or **disobey** that **rule**? What do they do?*
- *What was your favorite part of the story?*
- *What are some of the **rules** at our school? Are pets **permitted** at our school?*

Game: Tic-Tac-Talk—Name the Rule!

This game is like Tic-Tac-Toe, but you play until all of the spaces are filled.

There is no winner or loser.

1. Give your Little Buddy five game pieces of one color. Keep five game pieces of a different color for yourself.
2. Put a game piece on a picture and tell what the rule is. Use the word **allowed**, **permitted**, or **forbidden**. For example: "No bikes **allowed**." or "Swimming is **forbidden**."
3. Now it's your Little Buddy's turn to choose a picture and say the **rule**.
4. Play the game until all of the spaces are filled.

Before meeting with your Little Buddy, work with your Big Buddy partner to:

- Read and role-play the session plan.
- Play the Tic-Tac-Talk game.
- Read the selected book aloud. Ask and answer the questions.
- Review the *Journal* activity.

Read Together

Read the story aloud. Use the special words from the **MARTHA SPEAKS** show as you talk about these questions with your Little Buddy. Share your ideas, too.

- What were the characters allowed to do in this story? What were they forbidden to do?
- Name one or two rules from the story.
- Show me your favorite picture in the book. What do you like best about it?

Write Together

- Open the *Reading Buddies Journal* to Session 7. Read the directions aloud:
Think of a **rule**: No ____ **allowed**! Draw a picture sign to go with your **rule**.
- With your Little Buddy, make up a **rule**, something that is not **allowed**.
(Your **rule** can be silly or serious.)
- Complete the page together.

That's a
silly rule!



There Goes the Neighborhood

Session 8

About the Story

Helen and Alice are making a big fuss about a little kitten. Martha thinks kittens are not to be tolerated. But could this kitten be different?

Special Words

buddy: A *buddy* is a friend or a pal.

ignore: To *ignore* someone is not to listen to or pay attention to that person.

prejudiced: You are *prejudiced* when you decide you don't like someone before you even know him or her.

tolerate: To *tolerate* something is to accept something even if you don't like it.

Materials

Game: Choose and Chat

Book: _____

Reading Buddies Journal

Pencils, markers, scissors

Watch Together: "There Goes the Neighborhood"

- Watch the show with your Little Buddy.
- Listen for the "special" words.
- Find a place where you and your Little Buddy can talk, play, and read together.

Talk and Play Together

Ask your Little Buddy:

- Why do you think Martha was **prejudiced** against cats? What didn't she like about the new kitten?
- Why didn't Martha want the other dogs to know that she and the kitten were **buddies**?
- What made Martha decide to **tolerate** the new kitten?

Game: Choose and Chat

1. Place the eight game cards face down on a desk or on the floor.
2. Explain the rules to your Little Buddy.
 - Your Little Buddy will choose a card. You will then read the card aloud.
 - Both you and your Little Buddy will answer the questions or follow the directions on the card.
3. Try to use one of the special words in your answers. For example, you might say: *I **tolerate** spinach, even though I don't really like it.*
4. Take turns choosing cards until all eight cards have been played.

Before meeting with your Little Buddy, work with your Big Buddy partner to:

- Read and role-play the session plan.
- Cut out the cards and play the Choose and Chat game.
- Read the selected book aloud. Ask and answer the questions.
- Review the *Journal* activity.

Read Together

Read the story aloud. Use the words from the *MARTHA SPEAKS* show as you talk about these questions with your Little Buddy:

- *Were any of the dogs in the story prejudiced against cats?*
- *How did the characters learn to tolerate each other?*
- *What was your favorite part of the story?*

Write Together

- Open the *Reading Buddies Journal* to Session 8. Look at the picture and talk about it with your Little Buddy.
- Say, *Now Martha and the little kitten are buddies, just like you and me! Let's write a message to Martha, the kitten, or any other buddy you have.*
- Write your Little Buddy's message in the *Journal*.



**Kittens are
not to be
tolerated!**

Dog Fight

Session 9

About the Story

Martha and Skits don't want to share their toy. Now T.D. and Alice are bickering too. Can't they all just get along?

Special Words

bicker: To *bicker* is to argue or quarrel about little things.

negotiate: When you *negotiate*, you talk about a problem until you can agree on a solution.

quarrel: To *quarrel* is to fight or disagree about something.

truce: A *truce* is called when people who are fighting agree to stop fighting.

Materials

Game: Truce!

Book: _____

Reading Buddies Journal

Pencils, markers, scissors, wooden sticks, glue

Watch Together: "Dog Fight"

- Watch the show with your Little Buddy.
- Listen for the "special" words.
- Find a place where you and your Little Buddy can talk, play, and read together.

Talk and Play Together

Talk about these questions with your Little Buddy. Share your ideas, too!

- What were Martha and Skits **quarreling** about? Why did T.D. and Alice start **bickering**?
- Did you ever call a **truce** when you were fighting with someone?
- How did Helen help Martha and Skits **negotiate** a solution?

Game: Truce!

1. Cut out the pictures of Martha and Skits. Attach them to wooden sticks (if available) to make puppets. You and your Little Buddy will be acting out a scene in which Martha and Skits are quarreling. Then you will both call a truce and negotiate a solution.
2. Set the scene for your Little Buddy. Say, *Martha and Skits are quarreling again. What are they bickering about this time?*
3. Together, decide what Martha and Skits are fighting about. Do they want to watch different shows on TV? Does Martha want to sleep when Skits wants to play?
4. Use the puppets to act out the quarrel.
5. Talk about a solution. Will they take turns? Will they play together? Will they share?
6. Say, *Let's call a truce!* Then act out the solution to the quarrel.

Before meeting with your Little Buddy, work with your Big Buddy partner to:

- Read and role-play the session plan.
- Cut out the Martha and Skits character pictures.
- Read the selected book aloud. Ask and answer the questions.
- Review the *Journal* activity.

Read Together

Read the story aloud. Use the words from the MARTHA SPEAKS show as you talk about these questions with your Little Buddy:

- What were the characters in the story quarreling about?
- How did the characters call a truce or come up with a solution?
- What did you like about the ending of the story?

Write Together

- Open the *Reading Buddies Journal* to Session 9. Read the words that Martha is saying in the speech bubble.
- Explain to your Little Buddy, *Those are the same words that the character says in the “baby” show that Martha and Skits watched. Let’s draw a picture of something Martha and Skits could share and play together.*
- Together, draw a picture of the object and label it.

**Let’s call a
truce and share!**

Martha Says It with Flowers

Session 10

About the Story

Martha wants to do something special for Grandma Lucille's birthday. What would be a truly thoughtful gift?

Special Words

considerate: Being *considerate* means being nice and thinking about other people's feelings.

inconsiderate: *Inconsiderate* is the opposite of *considerate*. It means to just think about yourself and to not care about other people's feelings.

thoughtful: Being *thoughtful* means being kind to someone because you care about him or her. The words *thoughtful* and *considerate* mean the same thing.

sincere: When you are *sincere*, you speak from the heart and say things that you really mean.

Materials

Activity: Make a Thank You Card

Book: _____

Reading Buddies Journal

Little Buddy Certificate of Achievement

Pencils, markers, scissors

Before meeting with your Little Buddy, work with your Big Buddy partner to:

- Read and role-play the session plan.
- Read the Activity directions.
- Read the selected book aloud. Ask and answer the questions.
- Look over the Certificate of Achievement you will fill out with your Little Buddy.
- Review the *Journal* activity.

**Thank you
for being so
thoughtful.**

Watch Together: “Martha Says It with Flowers”

- Watch the show with your Little Buddy.
- Listen for the “special” words.
- Find a place where you and your Little Buddy can talk, play, and read together.

Talk and Play Together

Talk with your Little Buddy. Share your ideas, too.

- When Martha got on the bus with her basket of flowers, how did she act to the other people on the bus? Was she **considerate** or **inconsiderate**? Why do you think so?
- When Grandma Lucille said “thank you” to Martha for the handkerchief at the bottom of the basket, do you think she was being **sincere**? Why do you think so?
- What sort of **thoughtful** gifts have you given to people? (You can tell your Little Buddy about some of the thoughtful gifts you’ve given.)

Activity: Make a Thank You Card

- Help your Little Buddy make a thank you card for a family member or friend.
- You’ll need markers and scissors. Follow the directions on the “Make a Thank You Card” Activity Sheet.

Read Together

Read the story aloud. Use the special words from the MARTHA SPEAKS show as you talk about these questions with your Little Buddy. Be sure to share your ideas, too.

- Was there a character in this story who was considerate? What did he or she do that was thoughtful?
- Was there a character in this story who was inconsiderate? What did he or she do?
- Show me your favorite picture in the book. What do you like best about it?

Write Together

- Open the Reading Buddies Journal to Session 10. Look at the picture.
- Say to your Little Buddy, Let’s **pretend** that we’re going to make birthday baskets for someone in our family. Who would you like to make a basket for? What **thoughtful** things would you put in it?
- Write your Little Buddy’s answer in the Journal. If there’s time, help your Little Buddy draw a picture to go with the answer.

Celebrate!

Congratulations! You and your Little Buddy have successfully completed the MARTHA SPEAKS Reading Buddies Program. To celebrate, help your Little Buddy fill in his or her name on the Certificate of Achievement (in the back pocket of this guide). Then sign your name on the bottom. Woof, woof, hooray!

Credits



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