



Bruno Has One Hundred Friends

Guide for Teachers

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Grades K-3

About the Book

Bruno is very happy when he finds a mobile phone. Suddenly, he has many friends, all over the world! But he spends so much time with his “magic box”, he forgets all about Renzo & Rico.

ISBN: 9781605374055
READING LEVELS
Lexile Measure: 500L
Guided Reading Level: K

A story about what makes a real friendship. For children ages 5 and up.

Written and illustrated by Francesca Pironne, a freelance illustrator from Italy. In 2016 she was honored with the Key Colors Award of Clavis for this book.

Essential Questions

1. What is a friend? Create a friendship chart as a group.
2. What qualities do you look for in a friend?
3. What do friends do together?
4. Some people say- “in order to have good friends you have to be a good friend.”
What does that mean? Do you think it’s true?
5. What is a virtual friend?
6. What is the difference between a friend, and a virtual friend?

Friends care for you and know you as a person.

Virtual friends are on the computer but not with you physically.

7. What do you call “friends” that you meet on line?
8. What is more important, having hundreds of virtual friends on line or having a few real friends?
9. Are virtual friends “true friends”?

Discuss

Read the title and look at the cover illustration.

What is the bear holding in his hand?

Is this story going to be real or fantasy?

What do you think Bruno Has One hundred Friends is going to be about?

How many true friends do you have?

Do you think a person can have one hundred real friends?

What is more important in life- the number of friends a person has OR the quality of friends a person has? Explain

What are things that you and your friends do together?

What are some things that virtual friends do together?

Word Work

A synonym is a word that has the same or almost the same meaning as another word.

Ex) synonyms for big are huge, giant, & large

Think of some synonyms for the following words

Fast
Mom
Mean

What are some synonyms for true? Think of “true friend”.

Real
Actual
Honest
Faithful
Genuine
Sincere



Read/listen to Bruno Has One Hundred Friends.

Word Work

Who is the main character?

Who are the supporting characters?

What are the characters saying, thinking and doing?

Where does the story take place?

What is the problem?

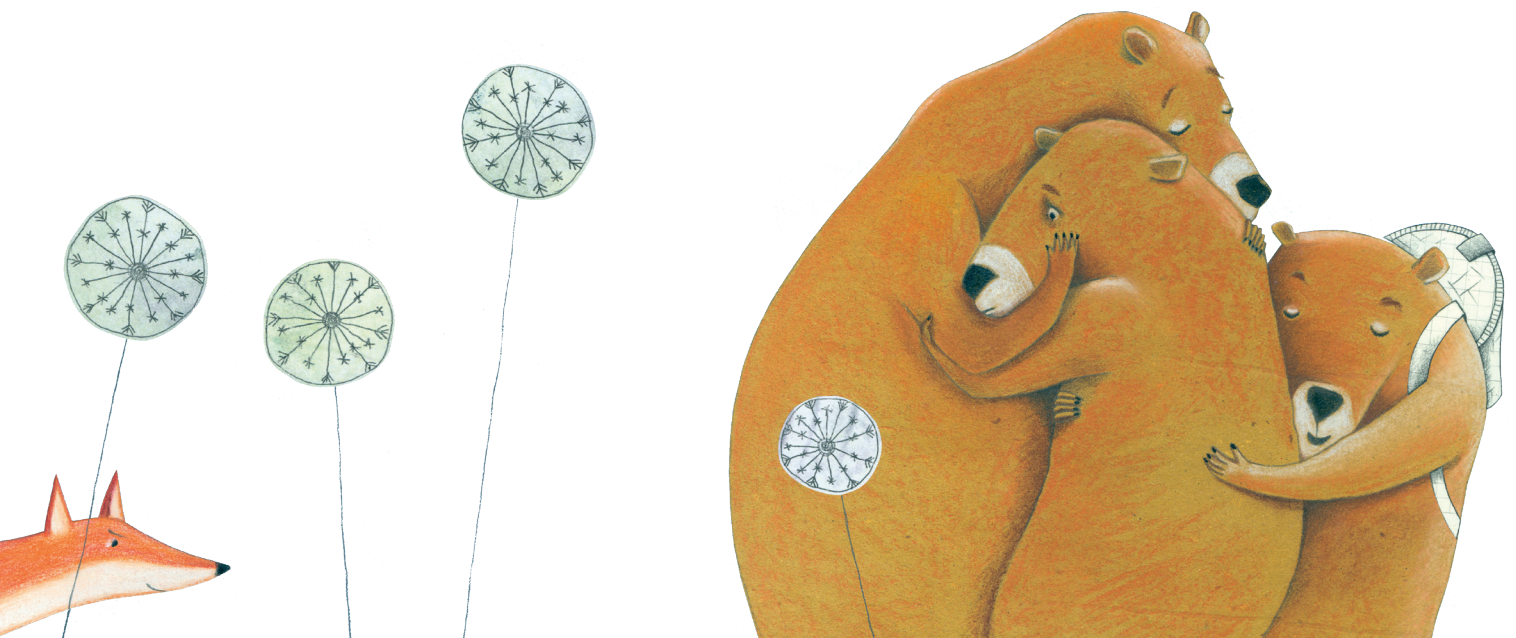
What do the illustrations tell you about the story?

How do the illustrations enhance the tone of the story?

How does author Francesca Pirrone use figurative language in the story?

What does she mean by “But it’s all in vain”? (Doing something all for nothing)

How is the problem solved?



Go back to the story

- What is the “strange object”?
- Why do you think he calls the strange object a “magical box”?
- What is extraordinary about his “magical box”?
- Why does Bruno think this phone is so wonderful?
- How do Renzo and Rico react to Bruno’s new phone? How do you think they feel?
- How would you feel if your friend stopped hanging out with you to be on his/her phone?
- Has this ever happened to you?
- How has their relationship changed?
- Why does the phone stop working? How does Bruno feel?
- When does Bruno realize that Renzo and Rico are his REAL friends?
- What did you find funny, sad, disappointing and happy in the story?
- How does the story change from the beginning to the end of the book?
- What is the central message of the story?
- Why do you think author Francesca Pirrone wrote this book?

Writing Response

Write an apology letter to Renzo and Rico from Bruno explaining why he chose the phone over his friends and what he learned.

Create a sign that will communicate to people that cell phone use is not allowed in certain situations.

Write the ending to the story. What do you think happens next?

Write your opinion. Do you think that Bruno was wrong for spending more time on his cell phone than with his friends? Or do you think Renzo and Rico were being too sensitive?

Worksheet Cause and Effect

Bruno found a cell phone. What effects did this have?

Name: _____

Date: _____

