Benny
An Adventure Story
K-3
Written and Illustrated by Bob Graham

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Story Summary

Benny is a dog with many talents. He works as a magician's assistant until, one day, he is kicked out because he is becoming more popular than his boss! Benny starts out on an adventure to find another job where he can use his special talents. He has many disappointments until he finds a family that loves him just for being Benny!

Objectives

1. To encourage the children to share stories about their pets.
2. To encourage the children to think about what makes each of them special and unique.
3. To develop an appreciation for liking others just for being themselves.

Before viewing the video

Tell the children they are going to see a video about a dog who can perform many tricks. Ask them to talk about the tricks that their pets do. When Benny loses his job he thinks that people will like him only because of his special talents. What are the qualities that make your pet lovable? Would you love your pet if it did not do any tricks? Let's watch and see how Benny finds love and happiness.

Questions to ask after viewing the video

1. What are the special tricks that Benny performs when he is working for Brillo, the magician?
2. Why does Brillo tell Benny to leave and never come back?
3. How does Benny find his way to the countryside?
4. Where are the different places Benny goes to try to find work?
5. Why can't Benny find work as a sheep dog?
6. How did Mary Kelly and her family make Benny happy?
7. Benny's new family liked him for being "himself." What did Benny do when he was just "being himself?"

Activities

1. Tell the children to select one child in the class. Write a paragraph telling what is special about that child.

2. Draw a picture of someone in your family. The picture should show something they do that is special to you.

3. Write a story about your pet or about someone else's pet. What makes that pet special to you?

4. Alike and Different: select a partner in the class and work together to write a list showing what makes the two of you alike and what makes the two of you different.