



# I DON'T WANT TO BE A FROG

AUTHOR: DEV PETTY

ILLUSTRATOR: MIKE BOLT

See a video of the book read aloud here: [I Don't Want to be a Frog](#)

**\*\* REMEMBER: HAVE FUN AND THE KIDS WILL TOO! \*\***

## OVERVIEW

### ABOUT THE BOOK

Frog wants to be anything but a slimy, wet frog. A cat, perhaps. Or a rabbit. An owl? But when a hungry wolf arrives—a wolf who HATES eating frogs—our hero decides that being himself isn't so bad after all. In this very silly story with a sly message, told in hilarious dialogue between a feisty young frog and his heard-it-all-before father, young readers will identify with little Frog's desire to be something different, while laughing along at his stubborn yet endearing schemes to prove himself right.

- [Amazon](#)

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

"Dev Petty writes the words for picture books that make you laugh and think. She was born and raised in Berkeley, California, and now lives right next door in Albany with her husband, two daughters, some dogs, and other critters. Before writing books, Dev was a senior visual effects artist and worked on films like the Matrix."

- [Dev Petty](#)

### ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Mike Boldt had a successful career illustrating children's product, including pop-up books, iPhone games and comics, before making the leap into picture books. He lives in Alberta, Canada and enjoys building snow forts, lego spaceships and eating ice cream with his wife and three children.

-[Amazon](#) [Mike Boldt](#)

## THE READ ALOUD

### BEFORE READING

Use these questions before reading the story to help students activate background knowledge and make predictions:

- Give me a thumbs up if frog looks happy and a thumbs down if he is not.
- Whisper to your neighbor what you wonder frog is thinking?
- Introduce the title, author and illustrator.
- Let's listen to the story and find out why he doesn't want to be a frog.

## I DON'T WANT TO BE A FROG

### TOPICS & THEMES:

- Self-acceptance
- Exploration of identity
- Unique characteristics

### *Tips for every book!*

#### POWER PHRASES:

*I WONDER...*

*I NOTICE...*

*TELL ME MORE...*

#### DIGGING DEEPER:

*"Tell me more, why do you think that?"*

*"How do you know that?"*

*"Why do you think they feel like that?"*

*"Interesting, did you notice anything else?"*

## DURING THE STORY

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*Use these questions while reading the story to help students interpret the action and content.*

(Comprehension - connections to world/self- print referencing - open ended questions - phonological awareness).

- (p.2) I wonder what animal frog is trying to be? I notice that frog wants to be a cat, what do you think?
- (p.6) Why can't frog be a rabbit? Who else do you think the frog will want to be?
- (p.10) How is the author telling this story? (speech bubbles, dialogue)
- (p.12) I wonder why dad thinks frog would like to be an owl? Why are owls called wise?
- (p.18) Why does frog look so worried when the wolf is talking?
- (p.23) What happened in the story to change frog's mind about being a frog

## AFTER READING

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*Use these questions while after reading the story to help students understand what they just read.*

- Is there something you learned from frog?
- Have you ever felt like you didn't want to be yourself and why?

## BRINGING THE BOOK TO LIFE!

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- Whisper to your neighbor who you would like to be. What do you like about that person?

## COOPERATIVE LEARNING

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- Pair up and act out like the animals in the story. Have your friend guess what animal you are.
- Tell your friend what other cute and warm animals frog could have chosen?

## SMALL-GROUP IDEAS

### 1. DISCUSSION ACTIVITY

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- Conduct a picture walk and let each child find their favorite page and tell why.
- What characteristics did frog need to have in order to be the frog, cat, rabbit, pig, owl, or fly.
- What three things didn't frog like about himself?
- How did the frog change from the beginning of the story to the end of the story?
- What are some things that make you feel good about yourself?
- What sort of things do people say that make you feel good?
- How do you feel when someone says something nice about you?
- Do you ever try to say nice things to other people to help them feel good? What do you say?

#### **Suggested Optional Activity:**

- Have the children will draw a picture of an animal they would like to be. Then have them add all of the characteristics that they like about that animal. Help the children write the name of their animal and why they want to be that animal.
- Each child will share their drawing with the group and tell what characteristics they like about their animal.

### 2. WRITING ACTIVITY

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- Help the children fold their paper in to four squares. In each square, the child will draw one of their favorite animals from the story and then write it's name. Have a sample of all the animal names available for children to copy.

### 3. EXTENSION ACTIVITY

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- Design your own book **“Things I Want to Learn”**
- On each page of your book, draw a something you would like to learn. Help the child to label their items. Some examples are: play soccer, run fast, swim underwater

#### COMMON CORE LINKS

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.K.1, K.2, K.3, K.4.