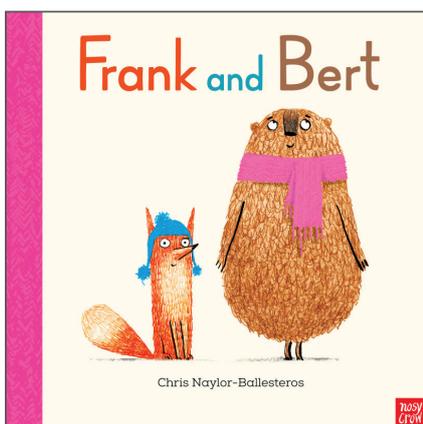


Frank and Bert

Teaching Notes

Introduction

Frank and Bert is the hilarious new picture book from Chris Naylor-Ballesteros, author of *The Suitcase*. With neon ink throughout, this interactive and entertaining story about friendship is guaranteed to get children giggling!



Frank and Bert are the best of friends and they LOVE to play hide-and-seek. But Bert the bear isn't quite as good at hiding as he thinks he is . . . and Frank ALWAYS wins! Every. Single. Time. But when it's Bert's turn to hide, and Frank has to decide between winning again OR making his friend happy, Frank learns that friendship is always the true winner.

Hardback • 9781788008402 • £11.99 / Paperback • 9781788008419 • £6.99
Suitable for ages 3+ • Published by Nosy Crow

Using these notes

The discussion notes and activities included are designed to help children explore the story of **Frank and Bert** and encourage them to think about the meaning of friendship, kindness and fairness.

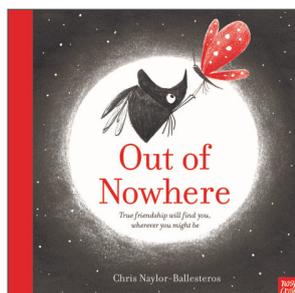
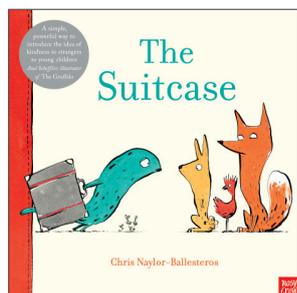


Chris Naylor-Ballesteros studied illustration and graphic design at Bradford College of Art. In 2000 he moved to France where, amongst other things, he was an English teacher before working in newspaper layout and design.

When his children were small he realised he loved the picture books he read to them, sometimes even more than his children did – the Picture Book Bug had truly bitten.

Chris has since written and illustrated several books and is currently thinking about the next one, probably with a cuppa in hand at home near Limoges.

Also by Chris Naylor-Ballesteros:



Praise for *The Suitcase*:
'One of the most empathetic children's books ever published.'
The New Statesman

Frank and Bert

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Before you read the book

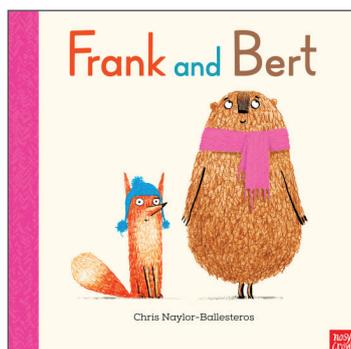
Before reading Frank and Bert with your students, look at the cover together and discuss the following:

- What sort of story do you think this is going to be? Happy? Sad? Funny?
- Look at the expressions on Frank and Bert's faces. How do you think they feel? Do their expressions give any clue as to what the story is about?

Discussion Questions

Read through the book and discuss these questions together as you go through.

- What do Frank and Bert love to do together?
- Why is Bert 'terrible' at hiding?
- Bert really wants to win the game. Why do you think this is? How do you feel when you win a game?
- Frank says he will count to a hundred for the next game. Is this a nice thing to do? Why?
- What happens to Bert when he tries to hide again?
- Frank decides to let Bert win this time. What does this tell us about Frank?
- How does winning make Bert feel?
- What happens to Frank at the end of the book?
- How did the story make you feel?
- What was your favourite part of the book?



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Activity: My Best Friend

Frank and Bert are best friends and they love to play hide-and-seek together. Ask the class to think about their own friends. Why are their friends special to them? What do they do with their friends? How do they feel when they spend time with their friends?

Create a class mind map about friendship and include everyone's answers from your discussion. Are there any key words that stand out?

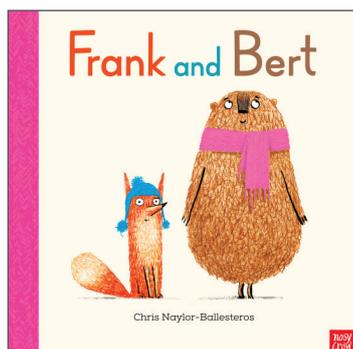
Then ask the children to draw a picture of themselves with their best friend. Ask a few children to share their pictures with the class and talk about their friends.

Activity: Kindness

Discuss as a class the acts of kindness that take place in *Frank and Bert*. Think about the things we see in the illustrations as well as in the text from the story. Discuss why these acts are kind and how they make the characters feel.

Ask the class to think about a time when someone has been kind to them. How did it make them feel?

There are lots of ways we can be kind to different people and make them feel special. Give each student a piece of paper and ask them to create a card for someone important to them, it could be a friend, their parent, or a teacher. They could write a special message inside the card to make someone happy.



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Activity: Taking Turns

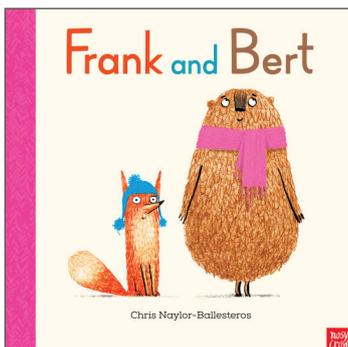
Cut out the cards from the 'Pairs Game' activity sheet and give each pair of children a set of cards. Tell them to lay out all of the cards face down and shuffle them around so they don't know which card is where. Each child should then take it in turns to flip over two cards at a time. If the cards match, they can keep them but if they don't they must flip them back over and it is the next player's turn. Continue playing until all of the matching pairs have been found.

Remind the children that they must take it in turns and wait until their go to find a matching pair. Discuss as a class about being nice to each other during and after the game. Remind them that winning isn't everything, that it is also important to have fun with their friends as they play.

Activity: Bert's Story

Frank tells the story in the book, so we see how he feels about his friend and why he makes his decision to let Bert win. How do you think the story would be different if Bert told the story?

Hand out the 'Bert's Story' activity sheet and ask the class to draw or write the story as if Bert was telling it. Ask them to think about how Bert feels about Frank, and the things that Bert doesn't know: did he know that Frank let him win hide-and-seek? How different does this make the story?



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Pairs Game



Bert's Story

1

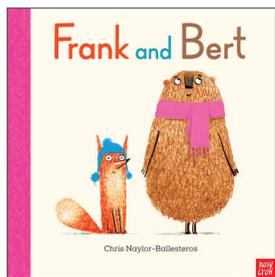
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Frank and Bert are best friends! How do you think the story would be different if Bert told it? Use the boxes above to tell Bert's story.

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