

NATIONAL SIMULTANEOUS STORYTIME

Wednesday 27 May 2015



Australian Library and
Information Association



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Activity ideas NSS 2015 – The Brothers Quibble

To ensure you, your school, community or library have loads of fun for National Simultaneous Storytime 2015, we have compiled a list resources and activity ideas that are sure to keep you busy before, during and after storytime.

Preparing for NSS

Before the fun of National Simultaneous Storytime, it's a great idea to create artwork for the day and decorate! Take a look at some of our create and decorate ideas.

Create things that align with the themes of the book, like family friendship and conflict.

- Explore family history and get the kids to create a family tree to hang on the wall. Here are some templates that we found, or create your own!
[template 1](#) | [template 2](#) | [template 3](#) | [template 4](#) | [template 5](#) | [template 6](#) |
- Draw a family portrait of you and your family. Give to family members or hang in your library or classroom
- Get the kids to make their family as MONSTERS with this great activity [here](#)
- Friendship activity, create a friendship card like [this one](#)
- Bunny did some growing up in the book, get the kids to create a timeline of their lives
- Create some bunting with positive words to remember when you are having trouble with a family member or a friend [bunting template](#).
- We also found more inspirational ideas below!
[idea 1](#) | [idea 2](#) | [idea 3](#) | [idea 4](#) | [idea 5](#) | [idea 6](#) | [idea 7](#) | [idea 8](#) | [idea 9](#) | [idea 10](#)

Participate

On the day, it's a fantastic opportunity to explore the themes of the book and do some activities that remind us of that. Here are some simple activities that you can do after National Simultaneous Storytime is over. Take a look below at some fantastic downloadable resources and even more ideas.



the
Brothers
QUIBBLE
by Aaron Blabey

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Activities that remind us of the lessons learnt in *The Brothers Quibble*

- Spalding pulls some pretty crazy faces in *The Brothers Quibble*, get the kids to draw the silliest, craziest face they can think of. Or draw a friend pulling a silly face.
- The author likes to use rhyming in the book, how about getting the children to write a rhyming poem about their family or friends?
- Spalding and Bunny's parents get fed up with Spalding's antics, practising breathing techniques can help calm down any situation. Take a look at some easy breathing exercises for kids [here](#).
- Finish the sentence activity, 'I love my brother/sister/cousin because...', 'my brother/sister/cousin makes me crazy when...!'
- Read other books by Aaron Blabey, including *Noah Dreary*, *Sunday Chutney* and *Pearl Barley and Charlie Parsley*.
- Spalding did some horrible things to his family in the book, because he thought he ruled the roost. But he also did some really good things throughout the book, like accept his new little brother as his friend. Imitate Spalding and Bunny's crazy antics with some of these activities, or come up with your own!
[crown 1](#) | [crown 2](#) | [crown 3](#) | [crown 4](#) | [green slime](#) | [MORE green slime](#) | [monster toothpaste](#) | [friendship bracelet](#) | [friendship bracelet 2](#) | [bake cookies for the cookie jar](#) | [music and percussion 1](#) | [music and percussion 2](#) | [daisy chain](#) | [The Brothers Quibble find-a-word](#)

Discussion ideas for your classroom or library

- Before opening the book ask some questions to the kids. Do they have siblings? How did they react when they came home? Do they get along? Do the boys on the cover look like they get along? What do you think 'quibble' means?
- Challenge: before reading the book, ask how many crowns can you count in the book?
- During or after the book ask some more. What do you think about Spalding's reaction to Bunny? Do you think his behaviour was okay, or was he over-reacting? How do you think



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Spalding is feeling? Why is he feeling this way? Were his parent's right to put him into time out?

- o How did Spalding's feelings towards Bunny change throughout the book? Why do you think Bunny admired his brother even though he wasn't very nice to him?

Author and illustrator resources

Aaron Blabey has written some fantastic books, as mentioned above. Please see a comprehensive list of his books below. To find out more about Aaron go to his website aaronblabeybooks.com or check out his [Facebook page](#).

- o Pig the Pug | [YouTube trailer](#)
- o Noah Dreary |
- o The Dreadful Fluff | [YouTube trailer](#)
- o The Ghost of Miss Annabel Spoon
- o Stanley Paste | [Interview with Aaron on Stanley Paste](#)
- o Sunday Chutney | [Auslan interpretation of Sunday Chutney](#)
- o Pearl Barley and Charlie Parsley | [Auslan interpretation of Pearl Barley and Charlie Parsley](#)

Songs and Rhymes

- o [This is my family rhyme](#)
- o [My family rhyme](#)
- o [Sesame street: Family song](#)
- o [Ten in the bed rhyme](#)
- o [We are family sing-a-long](#)
- o [You've got a friend in me sing-a-long](#)
- o [Friend like me sing-along](#)



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- o [Best of Friends sing-along](#)
- o [Jack and Jill](#)
- o [What are little boys made of?](#)

Story Matches – Books with similar themes or categories

- o *Tim and Ed* by Ursula Dubosarsky and illustrated by Andrew Joyner
- o *Herbert and Harry* by Pamela Allen
- o *Cuthbert's Babies* by Pamela Allen
- o *Pirate Pete: I'm a New Big Brother* by Ladybird
- o *Princess Polly: I'm a New Big Sister* by Ladybird
- o *Spot's Baby Sister* by Eric Hill
- o *My Sister and Me* by Rachel Flynn and Craig Smith

Publicity ideas

NSS is a fantastic opportunity to show off what you and your workplace or community has got up to for National Simultaneous Storytime. It's a fantastic chance to promote the value of literacy and reading, and get your event in the media. Here is some ideas to get you started.

Invite a VIP guest reader to your event. Feel free to use the NSS letterhead to write your invitation letter.

Invite the media. The media loves colourful, feel-good stories and being in the newspaper, news website or even on television news can be a lot of fun! With your NSS posters and balloons, your VIP guest reader and your participants dressed up in masks and costumes there will be lots of moments to create a positive media story. Use your networks or build new connections with your local media outlets to help us promote literacy and reading to Australian children.



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After the event

Share in the fun

When National Simultaneous Storytime passes, there's only another year to wait until the next one! But to reminisce on what a wonderful time you and your participants had listening to the book, and learning some valuable lessons from Spalding and Bunny, how about encouraging your participants to share their activities with family and friends? Suggest gifting artwork to parents, brothers or sisters.

Share your stories

Don't forget to send photos, videos and newspaper articles from your local media to events@alia.org.au.



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