



Kelly's Cabin

Linda Smith

illustrated by Zorica Krasulja

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AR Quiz # 106567

About the Book

Even a cardboard box can be a private (and magical) place. Kelly loves the cabin she has made from a refrigerator box. It has a window with curtains, pictures on the walls, a cabin-sized table and a wonderful view. It sits in the vacant lot nextdoor, transformed into the rugged farm of a pioneer family. Now if only Kelly can find the right person to share it with.

About the Author

Linda Smith loved Laura Ingalls Wilder's Little House books when she was growing up on the prairies, and regularly pretended that she was a pioneer.

About the Writing

Linda Smith has seen how children need private nooks or crannies to have as their own special places. As a small child she would pretend to be a pioneer and used unoccupied land such as a hillside or vacant lot to create her own pretend wild prairie.

Teaching Ideas—Curriculum Connections

Prereading Ideas

Kelly uses her imagination to create a space to play that not everyone thinks is as special as she does. Friends don't always agree on everything. Can you think of a time when a friend didn't enjoy playing the same game or activity that you did?

Classroom Discussion Questions

1. How does Kelly demonstrate caring and courage?
2. What does Kelly learn about herself and her friendships?
3. Kelly makes an assumption about Sean based on what someone else has said about him. She later learns that Sean is friendly. What could have happened if Kelly continued to believe what she had been told about Sean?
4. Do friends always agree? What can happen when friends like to do different things?

Suggested Activities

- Have students brainstorm a list of the qualities they look for in their friendships.
- Collect some refrigerator boxes from an appliance store and have the students make their own cabins, sharing in the construction, design and decorating.
- Have students think about what it might be like to move to a new place and the challenges they might face.

Other Titles and Websites of Interest

<http://familycrafts.about.com/od/royalcrafts/a/cbbccastle.htm>

The Birthday Girl by Jean Little (Orca Echoes)

A Puppy is for Loving by Mary Labatt (Orca Echoes)

Sharing Snowy by Marilyn Helmer (Orca Echoes)

Reviews

“Excellent.” —*Resource Links*

“A good choice...Recommended.” —*CM Magazine*