

TALLY HOLDS A PARTY

3



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TALLY & FRIENDS

Guided Reading Kit for Teachers & Parents

Tally & Friends is a storybook series written for children aged 5-7. Based on the fictional character Tally, the book series tells how Tally interacts with friends of different abilities and personalities, and how he learns to respect their differences. There are altogether three books, each illustrated with vivid and colourful images to arouse children's interest in reading and viewing. Through these storybooks, we hope to help children understand the values of diversity and mutual respect at an early age.

It is suggested that children should read the storybooks under the guidance of teachers or parents. Before reading the books, teachers and parents may want to flip through the pages and show your children the pictures. Talk to them about the covers, the titles and the pictures, and discuss with them what the books may be about to pique their curiosity.

When reading the books, ask your children if they see words that they do not understand. Pause to give them time to work out the words, give them hints or prompt them if necessary, and tell them the correct pronunciation and meaning. Praise them for trying even if mistakes were made.

After reading the books, discuss with the children the meaning of the story. Ask them questions to make sure they fully understand the story, such as how they think of a particular character, what they would do if they were in the story and what would happen next.

In this book, Tally and his friends held a party for their friends from Earth on Planet Diversity. The party almost got ruined when Tally failed to notice the needs of the animal friends. Luckily he and his friends managed to make some special arrangements so that everyone could have a good time. This story serves to inspire children to think about the needs of others and helping peers with special needs.

Story plot

Friends from Earth arrived on Planet Diversity.

Sample questions

- Why were the animal friends from Earth amazed by Planet Diversity?
Everything was supersized.
- Have you ever been to a place where people have different skin and hair colour(s) and speak different languages? Were you afraid?
- There are many people coming from different countries and places in Hong Kong. Can you name some of these places?
- If you were given a bowl of jelly beans, do you prefer to have only one colour (flavour) or many different colours (flavours) of jelly beans?
- If someone new joined your class and you wanted to make that person feel welcome, what would you do?

Learning points

We should appreciate the benefits of diversity, and learn to accept and respect differences. By reaching out and getting to know people better, we can learn to appreciate others' differences.

Story plot

The animal friends from Earth could not use the facilities.

Sample questions

- Why couldn't the animal friends from Earth use the facilities?
The facilities were too big and too high for them.
- What did Jerry do to help the animal friends?
He made a staircase and a ladder.
- Can you think of other ways to help the animal friends?
- Do you have a special condition or disability? How do you cope with it?
- Imagine you were a person who had lost your eyesight/ a leg/ an arm, what would happen? How would you like others to help you?
- Have you met someone who has a disability or special need? What do you think of him/ her? Do you want to be friends with him/ her?

Learning points

We are all born with different qualities and have different needs. Some of us may have disabilities or special conditions because of the way we were born, or owing to accidents or illnesses. Irrespective of our differences, we all deserve respect and to be included. With the help of others or equipment, we can do and achieve many things.

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It was the day of the party!



Since early morning, Tally, Jerry, Bolli and Curly had been busy decorating the house for the party.



In the afternoon, their friends from Earth arrived. Tally greeted them and gave them a warm welcome.

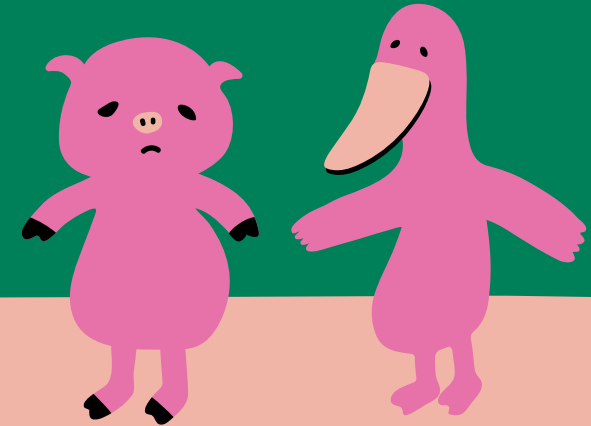




They told Tally that they were amazed by Planet Diversity. Everything was supersized!

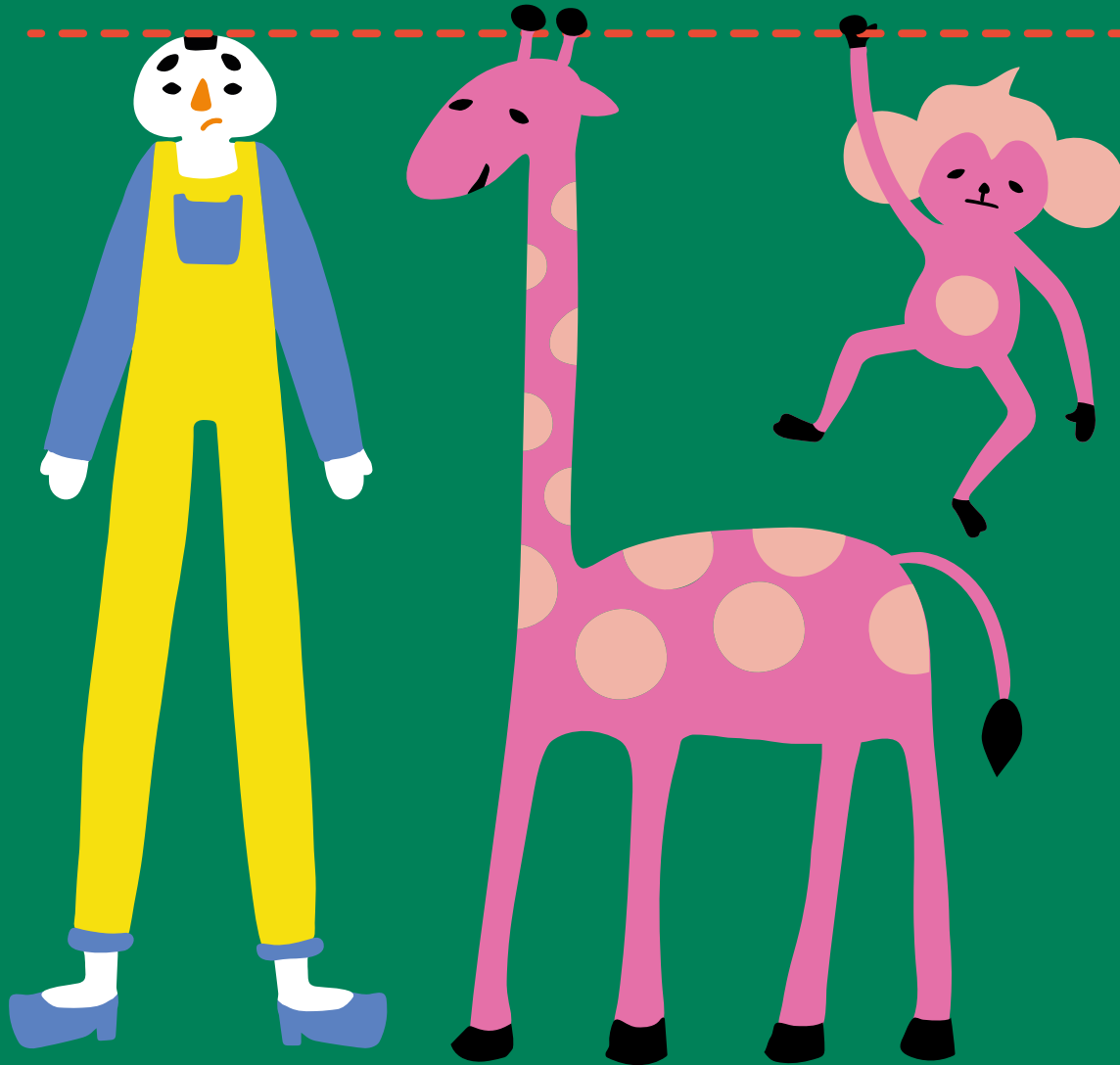
But when the party started, there was one “big” problem...

...the facilities were too big
for the animal friends to use.
Piggy and Ducky could not use
the game machine because of
their height.





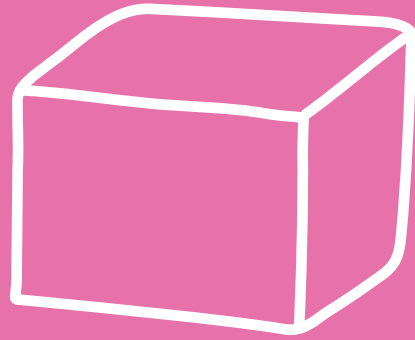
At first Tally did not know this. “Why are they just standing there? Don’t they know how to use the machine?” He wondered.



Then Tally noticed that his animal friends, except Giraffe and Monkey, could not use the facilities. They could not even reach the table for the food because everything on Planet Diversity was made for tall people like him.

Tally told the others what happened. Bolli, who always cares about others' feelings, felt bad for forgetting their friends' needs.

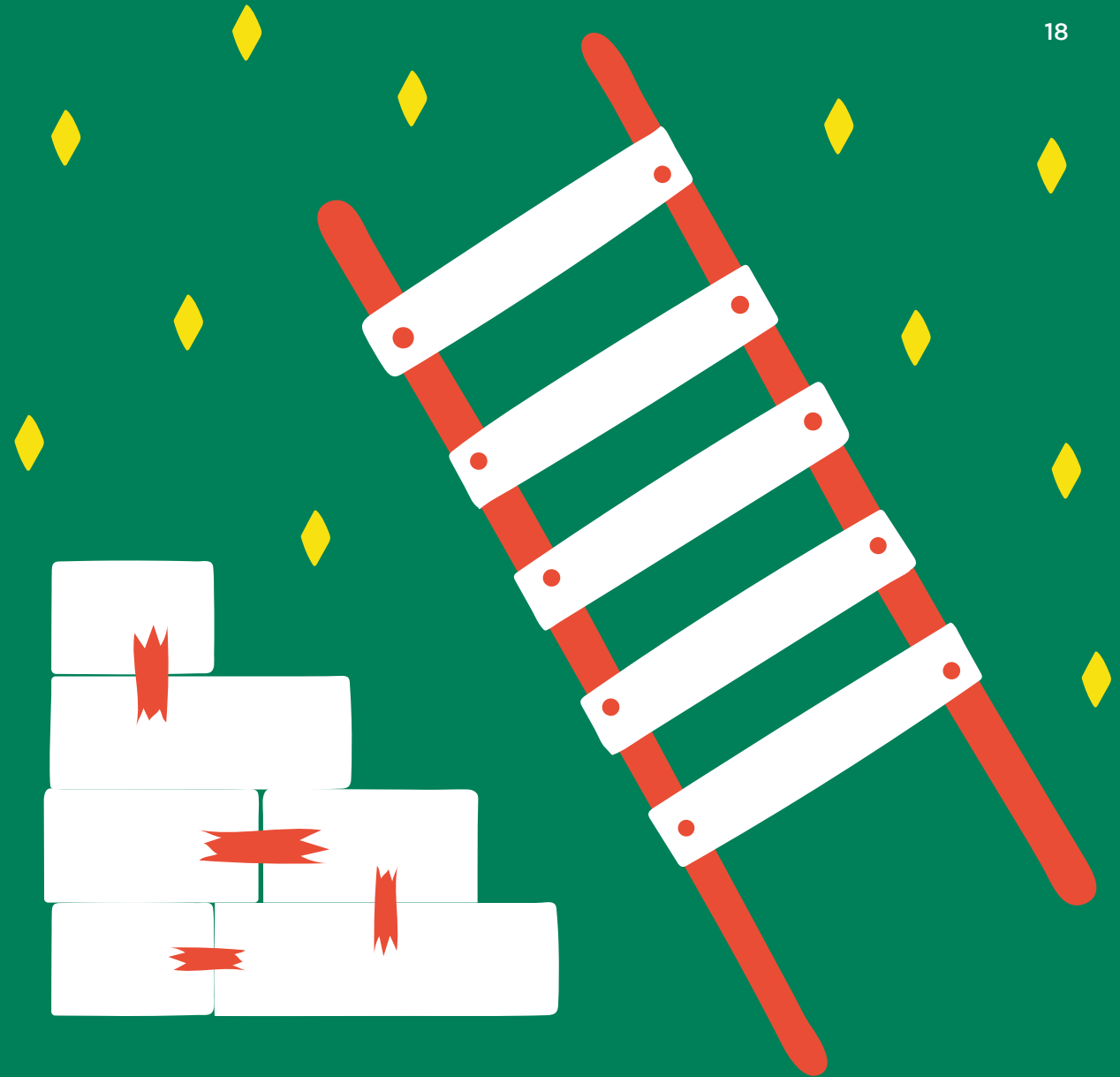




Jerry came up with an idea. He asked Curly to give him some wooden boxes and wooden boards.



With the boxes, Jerry made a staircase. With the boards, he put together a ladder.



Finally, everyone could enjoy the party!



Tally learned a great lesson: We all have different needs, like he and his friends from Earth. If we can show more understanding for others' needs, we can live in harmony. With a little help, his animal friends can enjoy the party while being who they are.



Understanding this, Tally promised himself he would pay more attention to the needs of others.

The universe is a whole lot better when we care about one another!



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Tally

& friends 



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