

A TEACHER'S GUIDE

Ages 3- Kindergarten



"A trip to the local animal shelter comes alive with rhyme and brings the reader along as a family adopts some forever friends.

Children will learn about animal shelters as "community helpers," opening up endless possibilities for teachers to extend the book with curriculum activities.

"Forever Home" is one of those books children will enjoy again and again, discovering something new each time." - Linda Schumacher, M. Ed.

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Meet the Author and Illustrator

Cathy Stenquist

Cathy Stenquist won second place in the 2020 Boston Author's Club Picture Book Discovery Award and had the chance to work with accomplished author/illustrator, Peter H. Reynolds, who called her a "Magical wordsmith. In between writing picture books, poetry and memoir pieces, she enjoys kayaking, hiking, cooking along with the chefs on PBS and enjoying her five grandchildren, who inspire many new stories.

Visit her at www.cathystenquist.com and on FB, Instagram and Twitter @Cathy Stenquist.



Erica Leigh

Erica Leigh is a children's picture book illustrator and book designer, who also specializes in acrylic portraiture, murals and graphic design. Her work is characterized by vibrant color and texture, with whimsical details that readers want to linger over and appreciate, time after time. Inspired by her passions for children, nature - especially animals, Erica's imagery is imbued with tender-loving feelings and a palpable joy.

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How to Use this Guide

Designed for students ages 3- Kindergarten

This guide offers easy to implement activities to enrich your English, Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies curricula.

Included are ideas for Social Emotional, Dramatic Arts and Physical Development.

The learning objectives and specific skills for this guide were based on the Massachusetts Guidelines for Preschool and Kindergarten Learning Experiences.

Learn more at:

<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/guidelines-for-preschool-learning-experiences>



*The FOREVER HOME characters:
Camille and Angel*



The real-life Camille and Angel

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in the FOREVER HOME Teacher's Guide***

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to the complete Teacher's Guide
when you book your School Visit!**

For more information, and to book your school visit
email: [Info @cathystenquist.com](mailto:Info@cathystenquist.com)!

Language and Literacy

Sample Activities

- **The Basic Anatomy of a Book:**

Have children identify the:

- Spine:
 - What information is listed here and why?
 - How is the book's spine like your spine?
- Front Cover :
 - What do you see? What are the two cats doing? Feeling?
 - How did the illustrator begin the FOREVER HOME story on the cover?
- End Papers:
 - Some are solid color or white and others have designs. Share samples.
- Title Page:
 - What does this page tell us? What are the characters doing?

Social and Emotional

Sample Activities

- **How Do the Cats Feel?:**

- Two cats are living in a barn. They are frightened and trembling. What might have frightened them?
- Have you ever been frightened? What frightened you?
- What made the cats feel safe and warm? Who makes you feel safe and warm?
- How did the doctor take care of the cats? Who takes care of you?

Mathematics

Sample Activities

- **Count to Two:**

- The number 2 is repeated throughout FOREVER HOME in words and illustrations:
- Two cats, two boots, two hands, two feathers, two birds.
- Even very young children can count to two on their fingers and notice “two things” in the illustrations.
- Use the word “pair” for pair of boots, pair of shoes, or pair of cats. Later in the day, use the word “pair” for other “two’s” you see in your classroom or outside.