

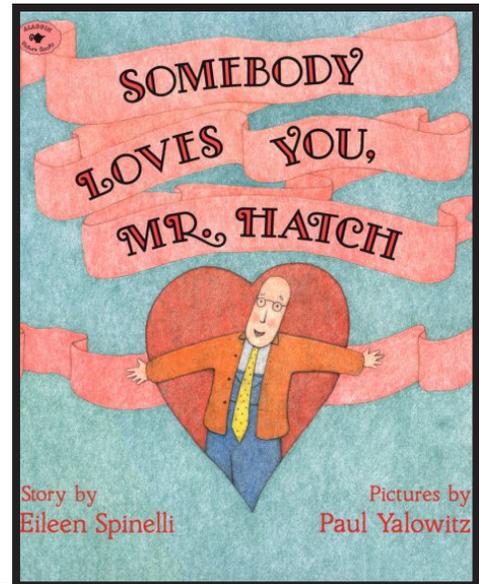
BOOKPALS STORYLINE PRESENTS:

"SOMEBODY LOVES YOU, MR. HATCH"

By Eileen Spinelli & Paul Yalowitz

Watch online video of actor *Hector Elizondo*
reading this story at <http://www.storylineonline.net>

This warmhearted tale examines the effect that love and tender regard can have on a lackluster existence. Mr. Hatch is a drab, predictable gentleman who leads a painfully ordered and uninteresting life. One Valentine's Day a giant candy-filled heart is delivered to Mr. Hatch with a note that reads, "Somebody loves you." Just the thought of someone taking an interest in him completely changes the way Mr. Hatch interacts with his neighbors and co-workers. The newly adorable gentleman becomes so much a part of the people's lives that when it is disclosed that the heart was delivered by mistake, his friends and neighbors rally around him in a loving demonstration.



RELATED ACTIVITIES

1. Tell or write a list of things Mr. Hatch did each day.
2. Tell or write how Mr. Hatch's life changed after he received the Valentine package.
3. Tell or write a list of the nice things Mr. Hatch did for others.
4. Mr. Hatch was worried about Mr. Goober, the postman's supervisor. Tell or write about why this was so. What would you have done in this same situation?
5. Find 3 sentences in "Somebody Loves You, Mr. Hatch" that tell about the nice things Mr. Hatch does for others. Write these sentences on a piece of paper and discuss them with someone.

Themes addressed in this book for discussion and additional books on these themes:

Kindness

- "Pink and Say" by Patricia Polacco
- "Chester's Way" by Kevin Henkes
- "Horton Hatches The Egg" by Dr. Seuss
- "Miss Spider's Tea Party" by David Kirk

Sharing

- "A Chair for My Mother" by Vera Williams
- "The Rainbow Fish" by Marcus Pfister
- "Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters" by John Steptoe

MORE ACTIVITIES

Brownie and Lemonade Celebration:

Mr. Hatch makes brownies and lemonade for his friends. Plan your own "Brownie and Lemonade Celebration." Here are recipes for you to use.

Best Lemonade Ever:

1 3/4 cups white sugar
8 cups water
1 1/2 cups lemon juice

1. In a small saucepan, combine sugar and 1 cup water. Bring to boil and stir to dissolve sugar. Allow to cool to room temperature, then cover and refrigerate until chilled.
2. Remove seeds from lemon juice, but leave pulp. In pitcher, stir together chilled syrup, lemon juice and remaining 7 cups water.

Chocolate Peanut Butter Brownies:

3/4 c flour
1 tbsp. Unsweetened cocoa
PLUS
1 tsp. Unsweetened cocoa
1 tsp. Baking powder
1/8 tsp. Salt
3 eggs
1/4 cup peanut butter
PLUS
1 tbsp. Peanut butter
1 tsp. Vanilla
1 tbsp. Oil
1/4 c Yogurt
12 tsp. Sugar

Preheat oven to 350 degrees

In a small bowl, combine flour, cocoa, baking powder and salt. In another bowl, combine remaining ingredients. Beat on low speed until well blended. Stir in dry ingredients by hand until well moistened. Place in 8-inch square pan that has been sprayed with non-stick cooking spray. Bake 15 minutes. Cool in pan, cut into squares to serve.

1. Make invitations and give them to your family and friends.
2. Use these recipes to make brownies and lemonade.

3. Have your "Brownie and Lemonade Celebration" by sharing them with the important people in your life.

4. After your "Brownie and Lemonade Celebration" write a newspaper article about your party. Include photographs or pictures you draw with your written article.

Describe your "Brownie and Lemonade Celebration" in a cinquain or Haiku.

A Cinquain is a form of poetry with five lines, written using a recipe. The words you choose and the form they take on paper are an important part of the writing.

Here's the recipe:

Line 1: one word to name the subject

Line 2: two words to describe the subject

Line 3: three action words about the subject

Line 4: a four or five word phrase describing the subject (a thought, not a complete sentence)

Line 5: one word that means the same thing as the first word, or a word that sums it all up

Here's an example:

Dog
Fluffy, playful
Running, rolling, licking
A bundle of energy
Canine

A Haiku is a form of Japanese poetry which looks simple, but is really very structured with rules for the way you write it. In English, Haiku consists of 17 syllables, which are arranged in three lines.

Here's the recipe:

Line 1: 5 syllables

Line 2: 7 syllables

Line 3: 5 syllables

Here's an example:

Spring goes, summer comes
With the warm heat from the sun
Swimming, picnics fun!

Now, describe your "Brownie and Lemonade Celebration" in a cinquain or Haiku!

Helpful resource books for your writing:

"Hailstones and Halibut Bones" by Mary O'Neill

"My Many Color Days" by Dr. Seuss

"Picasso the Green Tree Frog" by Amanda Graham

Other books you might enjoy about the topics in Somebody Loves You, Mr. Hatch:

"The Day It Rained Hearts" by Felicia Bond

"Wilfred Gordon McDonald Partridge"
by Mem Fox

"Gloria's Way" by Ann Cameron

"The Mysterious Valentine" by Nancy Carlson

"The Ballad of Valentine" by Alison Jackson

"Tomas and the Library Lady" by Pat Mora

"Something Beautiful"
by Sharon Dennis Wyeth

"Flower Garden" by Eve Bunting

"Junie B. Jones and the Mushy Gushy Valentine" by Barbara Park

"Sarah Plain and Tall" by Patricia MacLaughlin

"Dear Mr. Blueberry" by Simon James

"A Letter to Amy" by Ezra Jack Keats

"Letters from Felix" by Annette Langen

"The Jolly Postman or Other People's Letters" by Janet and Allan Ahlberg

"Click, Clack, Moo" by Doreen Cronin

"Giggle, Giggle, Quack" by Doreen Cronin

"Diary of a Worm" by Doreen Cronin

INTERNET ACTIVITIES

The main character in *Somebody Loves You, Mr. Hatch* changes through the story in the way he acts with the other people in the story. He begins to "show his heart" as he exhibits more acts of kindness to the people in his life.

Go to <http://www.goodcharacter.com/ISOC/Caring.html> and answer about yourself "Are You a Caring Person?"

If you answered "False" to any item(s), what could you do to make your answer(s) "True"?

Go to <http://www.personal-development.com/chuck/kindness.htm> and scroll down to "Advice from John Wesley". Read what John Wesley wrote.

Describe in your own words what he meant. How did Mr. Hatch exemplify this behavior?

Share your answers with someone.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Eileen Spinelli was born in Pennsylvania, and she still lives there with her husband. Both of them are writers, and Eileen says that their house "is overflowing with books and papers." When their children are at home, their house is overflowing with people! Besides writing, Eileen enjoys flea markets, garage sales, gardening, and visiting New England.

Other books by Eileen Spinelli:

The Perfect Thanksgiving
Thanksgiving at the Tappleton's
Sophie's Masterpiece: A Spider's Tale
When Mama Comes Home Tonight
Three Pebbles and a Song
Night Shift Daddy
Boy, Can He Dance
Six Hogs on a Scooter
If You Want to Find Golden
La Obra Maestra de Sofia: Un Cuento de Aranas
Whales
Sharks
Puppies
Zoo Animals

Paul Yalowitz is the acclaimed illustrator of a number of children's books, including "The Spooky Eerie Night Noise" by Mona Raburn Reeves. He lives in Brentwood, New York.

ABOUT THE READER

Now familiar to stage, film and television audiences everywhere, actor **Hector Elizondo** was born in New York's Upper West Side.

Growing up, Hector showed himself to be an

excellent all-around performer, proving himself sought-after for his talents as a baseball player, ballet dancer, classical guitarist, singer and much more. His much-praised work on stage (including *Steambath*, *The Great White Hope* and *Prisoner of Second Avenue*) complements his list of distinguished roles on the screen, and among his over 80 movies and made-for-television features, the critically and commercially praised actor has been seen in such hit films as *Pretty Woman*, *Runaway Bride*, *Raising Helen* and *Princess Diaries* and such miniseries and series as *The Burden of Proof*, *Monk*, *Grey's Anatomy* and *Chicago Hope*.



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