

STUDY GUIDE

A Sick Day for Amos McGee

Based on the Book by Philip C. Stead and Illustrated by Erin E. Stead

Adapted for the stage by Bruce Craig Miller

TEACHER RESOURCES

Virginia Rep's *A Sick Day for Amos McGee* and this study guide are produced in support of the teaching of state standards in the Language Arts, Music, and Theatre as well as national standards set forth by the National Core Arts.

AT THE LIBRARY

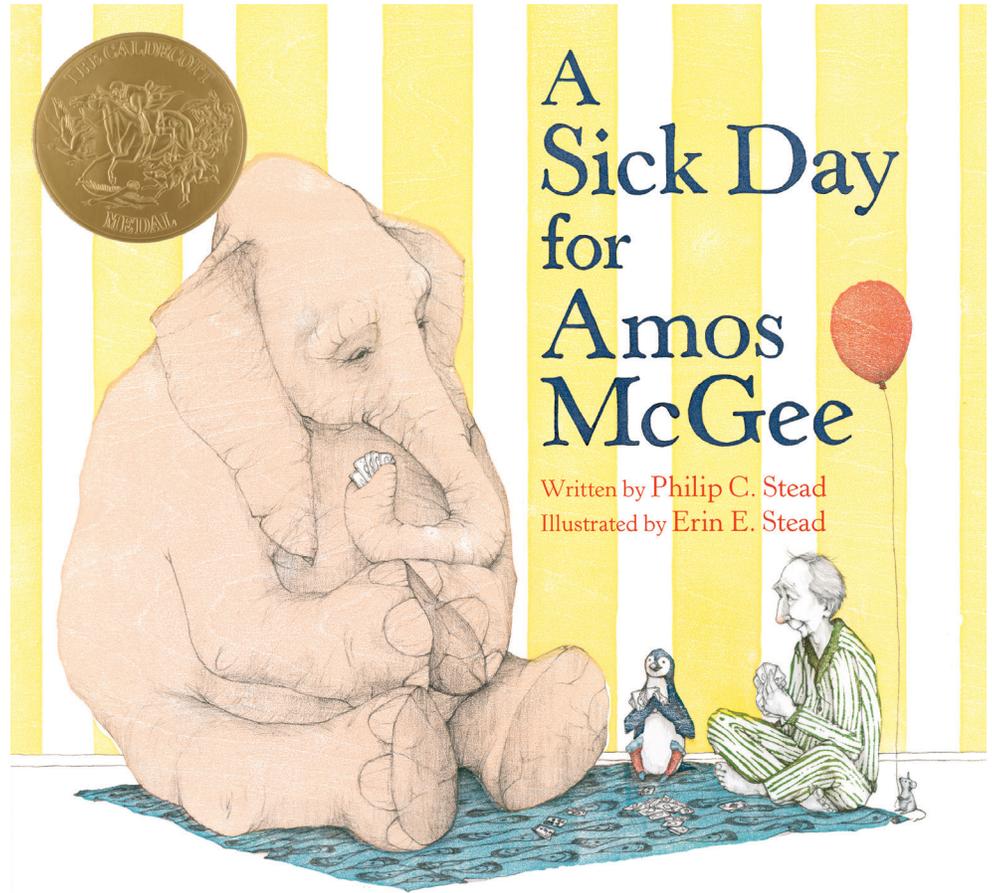
A Sick Day for Amos McGee by Philip C. Stead and illustrated by Erin E. Stead

ON THE WEB

A Sick Day for Amos McGee support materials
rif.org/literacy-central/book/sick-day-amos-mcgee

A Sick Day for Amos McGee lessons & resources
teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?tid=22120

A Sick Day for Amos McGee



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PLAY SYNOPSIS

Amos McGee is as kindly and conscientious a zookeeper as you will find. Day after day, he demonstrates the perfect way to bond with each of his friends: playing chess with the elephant, running races with the tortoise, spending quiet time with the timid penguin, and being always there with a handkerchief when one is needed by the sniffing rhino. When one day Amos himself feels under the weather and must remain home in his bed, the animals must decide together what they can do to return the favor.

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LET'S WRITE

1. What causes Amos to stay home from work one day? Do you think this is a good choice? Explain.

2. Choose one activity that Amos enjoys with an animal friend. Why is this the perfect activity to do with that animal?

3. What animal would you choose to visit at the zoo? What game would you play with that animal?

4. Pretend you are home sick, just like Amos in *A Sick Day for Amos McGee*. Who would you want to visit you? Why?

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS

1. In what ways did Amos show kindness to the animals at the zoo? Why do you think he acted this way?
2. What are some ways that you show kindness to the people around you?
3. How did the animals act toward Amos? Why do you think they acted this way?
4. Have you ever repaid a kindness like the animals did for Amos?
5. What can you do in the future to show kindness to others?

After everyone has shared, create a "Kindness Tree" in your classroom. Put a paper tree on the wall and use colorful construction paper to make cut-out leaves. Draw and write on the leaves all the things people have done to show kindness to you. Have your teacher fill the tree, and include ways that you will show kindness to others. Set a goal to fill the tree with leaves!



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SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

Place the following story events in order from 1-10.
Write the correct number in the circle next to the event.

The penguin kept Amos' feet warm.

Amos puts sugar in his oatmeal and teacup.

Amos and the animals have tea before they turn out the light.

Amos wakes up with sniffles and sneezes.

The rhinoceros gives Amos a handkerchief.

The number five bus takes Amos to the zoo.

The animals get on the number five bus.

Amos gets out of bed and puts on his uniform.

Amos plays chess with the elephant and runs races with the tortoise.

At the zoo, the animals are concerned when they don't see Amos.

MORE TEACHER RESOURCES

HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Grades K-1: How were the characters in the play acting like good friends? Explain.

Grades 2-3: Illustrate and describe the setting of the story. Was it urban, suburban or rural?

Grades 4-5: Create a timeline of events from the play. What do you think the most important event was?

SCIENCE

Grades K-1: Compare and contrast the appearance of the animals in the story.

Grades 2-3: Research one animal from the story. Create a poster with interesting animal facts.

Grades 4-5: What do elephants and penguins need as part of their different habitats?

Cues at the Theatre

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