

There Goes the Neighborhood

About the Story

Helen and Alice are making a big fuss about a little kitten. Martha thinks kittens are not to be tolerated. But could this kitten be different?

Special Words

buddy: A *buddy* is a friend or a pal.

ignore: To *ignore* someone is not to listen to or pay attention to that person.

prejudiced: You are *prejudiced* when you decide you don't like someone before you even know him or her.

tolerate: To *tolerate* something is to accept something even if you don't like it.

Materials

Game: Choose and Chat

Book: _____

Reading Buddies Journal

Pencils, markers, scissors

Watch Together: "There Goes the Neighborhood"

- Watch the show with your Little Buddy.
- Listen for the "special" words.
- Find a place where you and your Little Buddy can talk, play, and read together.

Talk and Play Together

Ask your Little Buddy:

- Why do you think Martha was **prejudiced** against cats? What didn't she like about the new kitten?
- Why didn't Martha want the other dogs to know that she and the kitten were **buddies**?
- What made Martha decide to **tolerate** the new kitten?

Game: Choose and Chat

1. Place the eight game cards face down on a desk or on the floor.
2. Explain the rules to your Little Buddy.
 - Your Little Buddy will choose a card. You will then read the card aloud.
 - Both you and your Little Buddy will answer the questions or follow the directions on the card.
3. Try to use one of the special words in your answers. For example, you might say: *I **tolerate** spinach, even though I don't really like it.*
4. Take turns choosing cards until all eight cards have been played.

Before meeting with your Little Buddy, work with your Big Buddy partner to:

- Read and role-play the session plan.
- Cut out the cards and play the Choose and Chat game.
- Read the selected book aloud. Ask and answer the questions.
- Review the *Journal* activity.

Read Together

Read the story aloud. Use the words from the *MARTHA SPEAKS* show as you talk about these questions with your Little Buddy:

- *Were any of the dogs in the story prejudiced against cats?*
- *How did the characters learn to tolerate each other?'*
- *What was your favorite part of the story?*

Write Together

- Together, look at the picture in the Reading Buddies Journal and talk about it.
- *Say, Now Martha and the little kitten are buddies, just like you and me! Let's write a message to Martha, the kitten, or any other buddy you have.*
- Write your Little Buddy's message in the *Journal*.



**Kittens are
not to be
tolerated!**