



Penny and Her Marble

By Kevin Henkes

GRL K

ABOUT THE BOOK:

When Penny takes her doll Rose out for an exciting walk, she finds a big, shiny blue marble on Mrs. Goodwin's lawn. It can't be Mrs. Goodwin's, and also, no one is looking. So Penny puts it in her pocket. At first playing with it is fun, but then Penny realizes it might not really belong to her. What can she do to fix her mistake?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. How do the illustrations show Penny's imagination? How do they show her worries? How do they connect to the story's words to show what Penny is imagining, dreaming, and feeling? *Common Core State Standards (Reading: Literature):* *RL.K.7., RL.1.7., RL.2.7., RL.3.7.*
2. When Penny first decides to pick up the marble, was that the right thing for her to do? Why? Use evidence from the story to explain your answer. Did your feelings about this change over the course of the story? Why? *Common Core State Standards (Reading: Literature):* *RL.K.1., RL.1.1., RL.2.1., RL.3.1.*
3. What is the central message or lesson of each chapter of the story? How can you tell from the details of the story? What is the overall message or lesson of the entire story? How can you tell from the details of the story? *Common Core State Standards (Reading: Literature):* *RL.K.2., RL.1.2., RL.2.2., RL.3.2.*
4. Who are the most important characters in the story? What do they do that makes them important to the story? How does each respond to the story's major challenges? How do the actions each takes influence others? *Common Core State Standards (Reading: Literature):* *RL.K.3., RL.1.3., RL.2.3., RL.3.3.*

Common Core State Standards (Speaking and Listening) that discussions might also address: SL.K.1a-b., SL.1.1a-c., SL.2.1a-c., SL.3.1a-d., SL.K.6., SL.1.6., SL.2.6., SL.3.6.

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES:

Penny and Her Marble Poem: With help from your teacher, reread this story and make lists of words or phrases that suggest feelings, appeal to the senses, and create rhyme or repetition. As an extra project, you could also list phrases that have figurative meanings. When you're finished, use the words and phrases you've listed to write a poem about Penny and her marble. *Common Core State Standards (Reading: Literature):* *RL.K.4., RL.1.4., RL.2.4., RL.3.4.*

Would You Have Picked Up the Marble? Opinion Piece: If you had been in Penny's situation, would you have picked up the marble? First write a pro and con list, using evidence from the story and your own life. Once you have your list, decide what you would have done. Then write, dictate, or draw a Would You Have Picked Up the Marble? opinion piece. When you're finished, share it with your friends. Do they agree or disagree? *Common Core State Standards (Writing):* *W.K.1., W.1.1., W.2.1., W.3.1a., W.3.1b., W.3.1c., W.3.1d.*

The Day I Made a Mistake—and How I Fixed It! Story: In this story, Penny comes to feel she's made a mistake when she picked up the marble. Think of a time when you made a mistake that worried you or caused you to feel guilty. How did you correct your mistake? Write, draw, or dictate your The Day I Made a Mistake—and How I Fixed It! story, using all the important details you need to create a fantastic read. *Common Core State Standards (Writing):* *W.K.3., W.1.3., W.2.3., W.3.3a., W.3.3b., W.3.3c., W.3.3d.*

What's That Medal on the Cover? Report: *Penny and Her Marble* won a Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor. With help from your teacher, research the answers to some of these questions: What kind of books win this award? What are some of the other winners? Who was Theodor Seuss Geisel? Once you've finished your research, write, dictate, or draw a What's That Medal on the Cover? report, so everyone can learn more about this special award. *Common Core State Standards (Writing):* *W.K.2., W.1.2., W.2.2., W.3.2a., W.3.2b., W.3.2c., W.3.2d.*

Common Core State Standards (Writing) that writing activities might also address: W.K.5., W.1.5., W.2.5., W.3.5., W.K.6., W.1.6., W.2.6., W.3.6.

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