

JOHN BROWN, ROSE AND THE MIDNIGHT CAT

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by Jenny Wagner, ill. by Ron Brooks
Themes: Friendship, Pets, Sibling Rivalry
Grade Level: Pre-K-2
Running Time: 7 minutes, iconographic

SUMMARY

JOHN BROWN, ROSE AND THE MIDNIGHT CAT is the tale of an elderly widow named Rose whose friend and companion is a dog named John Brown. John Brown is a loyal friend and caretaker for Rose, looking out for her as best he can. One night, Rose thinks she hears a cat out in the garden. John Brown assures her that it is not a cat. When Rose goes to bed, he goes outside and confronts the noisemaker, who really is a cat. John Brown, jealous at the thought of someone else receiving Rose's attention, tells the cat to stay away.

When Rose realizes that there is a cat outdoors, she cares for it by leaving a bowl of milk outside the front door. Each night jealous John Brown tips the milk bowl over. One morning, Rose does not get out of bed. She feels ill and tells John Brown that she will not be getting up. John Brown worries about Rose all day. Finally he enters her room and asks if the cat would make her feel better. When Rose replies, "Oh, yes!" John Brown brings the cat in. The end of the story finds a contented Rose, John Brown and the newcomer cat relaxing and enjoying the quiet—and one another!

OBJECTIVES

- Children will explore the meaning of friendship.
- Children will learn about ways of caring for pets.

- Children will investigate the importance pets have to their owners.

BEFORE VIEWING ACTIVITIES

Share the book, JOHN BROWN, ROSE AND THE MIDNIGHT CAT, with children.

Then ask children in the class to describe their feelings about their siblings.

- Do they get jealous when Mom or Dad pays attention to another sibling?
- Don't they still love their brothers/sisters after all?
- What do we know about John Brown?

Do a simple character study using specific references from the book.

Talk with children about their pets. (If children do not have pets, encourage them to describe the kind of pet they would enjoy having.) Ask:

- How do you (would you) care for your pet?
- How do you (would you) feel about your pet?

Discuss children's relationships with their friends. Ask:

- Do you have a special friend?
- What kinds of things do you like to do together?
- What do you like most about your friend?
- How would you feel if your special friend became friends with someone else?
- Would it be difficult to share your friend?
- If so, what could you do to feel better about this?

Visit a pet shop with children. Before the trip, work with children to draw up a list of questions about pets they would like answers to. After investigating the many different kinds of pets available, encourage children to ask the shop staff questions from their list and any additional questions they might have about the animals.

AFTER VIEWING ACTIVITIES

Have children investigate the feeling between pet owners and their pets by being cub reporters. Help children tape record interviews with various school staff members who have pets. Have children ask questions of the pet owners such as:

- What kind of pet do you have?
- What is its name?
- How long have you had your pet?
- Why is your pet special to you?
- How do you care for your pet?

Later, play the interviews back for children. As children listen, discuss the conclusions they draw about the relationship between the pet owners and their pets. You might want to help older children print their findings and display them on a bulletin board under the heading "Friends Forever!"

Have children draw pictures of their own pets or pets they would like to have. Attach writing paper to the bottom of each drawing. Have younger children dictate their feelings about their pets and print the dictations. Older children can work independently to print information about their pets. Later, display the drawings and stories on a classroom wall to share with visitors.

Other videos about friendship available from Weston Woods include:

Andy and the Lion by James Daugherty
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The Beast of Monsieur Racine by Tomi Ungerer

The Caterpillar & the Polliwog by Jack Kent

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Rose, an old woman, and John Brown, her dog, live together happily, until one day the Midnight Cat begins lurking around the house. Rose likes the cat and makes overtures towards it, but John Brown feels threatened and is afraid that (a) Rose might not have enough love for both him and the cat, and (b) the balance of their happy relationship will be changed if the cat moves in, and maybe not for the better. Unde Note: I didn't read this; I saw it on "Sammy's Story Shop." This story is appalling!Â John Brown is a very sweet sheepdog who is perfectly content with his and Rose's life together and Rose feels the same way. That is until one night Rose spots the midnight cat pottering around in the garden. I wonder what the midnight cat represents? Wagner, Jenny. & Brooks, Ron. (1977). John Brown, Rose and the midnight cat. Harmondsworth, England : Kestrel Books. MLA Citation. Wagner, Jenny. and Brooks, Ron. John Brown, Rose and the midnight cat / story by Jenny Wagner ; illustrations by Ron Brooks Kestrel Books Harmondsworth, England 1977. Australian/Harvard Citation. Wagner, Jenny. & Brooks, Ron. 1977, John Brown, Rose and the midnight cat / story by Jenny Wagner ; illustrations by Ron Brooks Kestrel Books Harmondsworth, England. Wikipedia Citation. Please see Wikipedia's template documentation for further citation fields John Brown and the Midnight Cat are friends. Rose gives the Midnight Cat milk to drink. The Midnight Cat is a naughty cat. The Midnight Cat visits Rose and John Brown. John Brown is always happy to see the Midnight Cat. John Brown runs away. Rose gets sick and stays in bed.Â â€"I donâ€™t see any cat,â€™ said John Brown. But Rose saw the midnight cat often after that. Every night, when John Brown was not looking, she put out a bowl of milk. John Brown thought.

Author: Jenny Wagner Illustrator: Ron Brooks Rose and her dog, John Brown, live a happy, contented life... See more of John Brown, Rose and the Midnight Cat on Facebook. Log In. or. Create New Account. See more of John Brown, Rose and the Midnight Cat on Facebook. Log In. Forgotten account? Rose, an old woman, and John Brown, her dog, live together happily, until one day the Midnight Cat begins lurking around the house. Rose likes the cat and makes overtures towards it, but John Brown feels threatened and is afraid that (a) Rose might not have enough love for both him and the cat, and (b) the balance of their happy relationship will be changed if the cat moves in, and maybe not for the better. Understan Note: I didn't read this; I saw it on "Sammy's Story Shop." This story is appalling! John Brown is a very sweet sheepdog who is perfectly content with his and Rose's life together and Rose feels the same way. That is until one night Rose spots the midnight cat pottering around in the garden. I wonder what the midnight cat represents? Rose's dog feels he can look after her without any help from a cat but Rose has different ideas. Book Information. Reader Comments. Some of the published credits of Jenny Wagner include John Brown, Rose, and the Midnight Cat (Unabridged), High Hopes On S more View Jenny Wagner's profile. Videos. You must be a member of JacketFlap to add a video to this page.