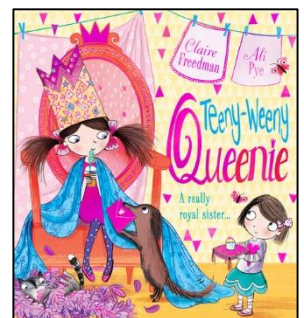




Teeny-weeny Queenie
Written by Claire Freedman
and illustrated by Ali Pye

1 – Introducing the book

- Start by reading the words in red from the blurb, which explain that when Queenie grows up, she wants to be queen. Ask children to share what they would like to be when they grow up, can they give a reason for their choice?
- Queenie is already prepared for her royal role with the objects she has in her bag. Ask children what things they might put in their bag, depending on what they want to do. Children could draw and label some of the different objects they think they might need. Model this by showing some things that might be in a teacher's bag, such as post-it notes or blu-tack, a dry-wipe pen, an apple for breaktime, a plaster for a hurt knee etc. Display these objects on a tray and ask children to take a good look. Then cover the tray with a cloth and without the children seeing, remove one object. Ask the children to identify what is missing.
- The second part of the blurb explains that before becoming a queen, Queenie first has to learn to be a good sister. Ask which of the children has a brother or sister? Use the data you collect to create a simple Venn diagram using photos of the children's faces. Where would I put this person who has a sister and a brother? Where does this person's face go – they are an only child?

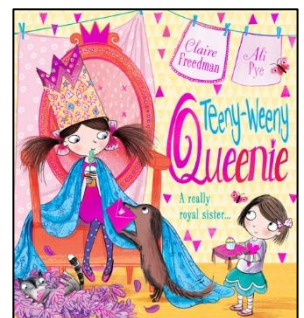




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1 – Introducing the book

- Discuss - what things do you do to be a good sister or brother? If you have a sister or brother, what do they do for you? Establish that it's just like being a good friend to one another in the classroom – you need to be kind and considerate.
- As you read through the story, establish which things Queenie does that are kind, and what she does that is unkind and upsets Ella. Invite children to brainstorm simple acts of kindness that you can easily do for other people, for example sharing a story with someone, allowing another person to go ahead of you in the line, finding some equipment for someone else etc. You could make a class 'kindness wall'. Have a series of envelopes displayed, each containing a different kind act. Children could take it in turns each day to choose an envelope and with help from an adult, read the action inside. They then need to try and carry out that act at some point during the day. Talk about how it feels to be on the receiving end of a kind act, and how it feels to do something nice for someone else.

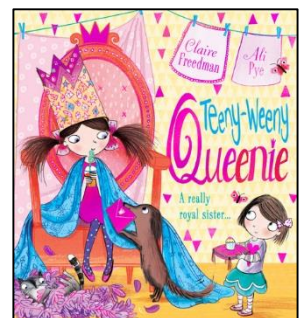




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2 – Royal-tea

- In the story Queenie invites her friends to come for a Royal tea party. Why not hold your own royal tea party in your classroom?
- Of course, if they are going to act as royalty, children will need crowns to wear. These can be simply made from paper plates: Use a craft knife and a ruler to cut the body of the plate into quarters (leaving the ring around the edge). Then divide each of these again to form eighths. Fold each triangle shape up to form the crown. Decorating the crowns will enable children to practice maths skills, for example by counting out a required number of 'jewels' to glue on. These jewels could be different shapes, allowing a comparison of the features of 2-D shapes. This activity would also allow them to explore repeating patterns.
- Making party cakes and 'queen of hearts jam tarts' (simply decorated with a heart shape cut from pastry) will allow for lots of practice of weighing and measuring different quantities, as well as of dividing as they are shared out onto different plates.





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2 – Royal-tea

- Children could write invitations to their classmates or to other children in the school. They could be 'sealed' with a thick blob of paint, into which children could print a simple crown shape cut into a potato half.
- Decorate your classroom as a palace, with children's royal portraits on the walls. The (card) frames for these paintings could be made suitably ornate by arranging and glueing string into patterns before painting them gold or glueing spray-painted pasta shapes around the edge.

