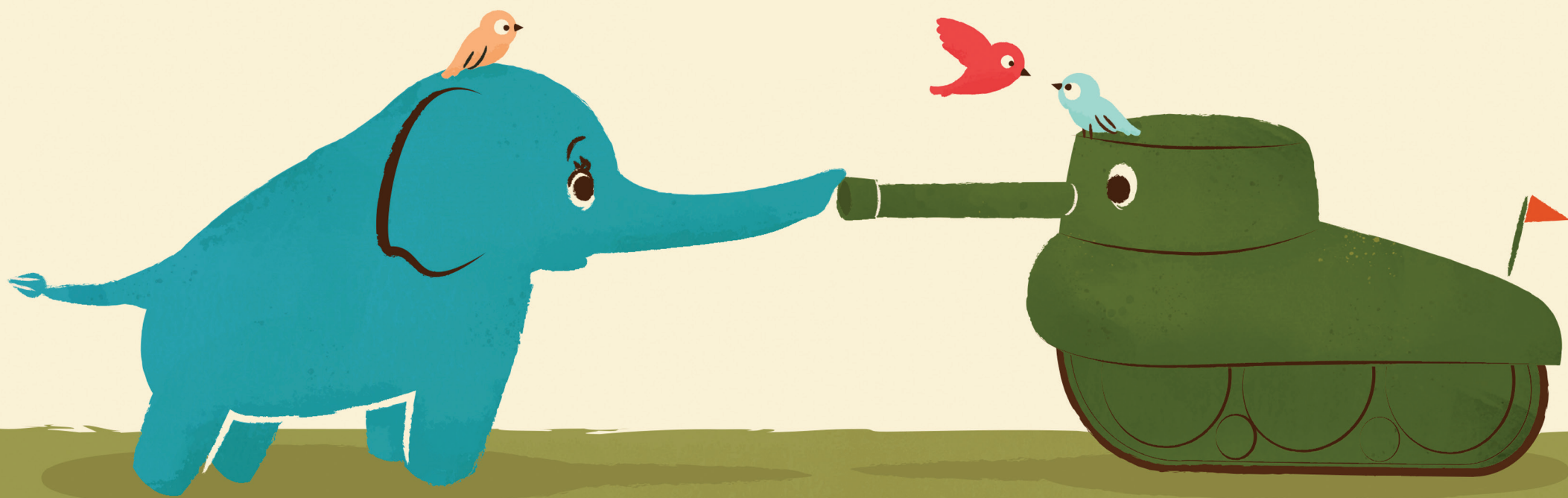


Make FRIENDS



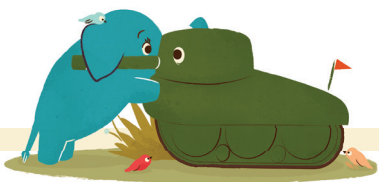
not WAR



Penguin
Random House
TUNDRA BOOKS

Tilly and Tank by Jay Fleck | ISBN 9781101917862 | Available January 9, 2018

TILLY AND TANK DISCUSSION GUIDE



About the book

A sweet and funny picture book that looks at the blossoming friendship between an elephant and a tank and encourages kids to make friends, not war.

Tilly the elephant is taking her morning stroll when she notices something strange on the horizon. Is it another elephant? The newcomer has a trunk and tail, but he’s a very curious shade of green. Tank, on the other hand, notices an odd-looking creature approaching. It has a

barrel and a turret, like Tank, but is a curious shade of blue. Is it a new enemy tank? Tank’s alarm sounds and he goes BOOM, scaring Tilly off. But when Tilly re- turns with a flower, Tank begins to understand that she might not be an enemy at all.

Tilly and Tank is a heartwarming tale of friendship, peace and understanding by debut author/illustrator Jay Fleck.

About the author

Jay Fleck is a designer and illustrator based in Shorewood, IL. He is the illustrator of the picture books *Double Take!*, *Black Belt Bunny* and *Everything You*. His artwork has been featured on products at the Gap, on Threadless and on the front page of Society6.com, as a number of other brick-and-mortar and internet stores. Tilly and Tank is the first picture book he has both written and illustrated.

How to use the book in the classroom

This funny and heartwarming tale can be used to lead discussions with young students about friendship, making mistakes and forgiveness. Suggestions for simple follow-up activities are included.

BEFORE READING DISCUSSION PROMPTS

- Think of a special friend. Do they look the same as or different from you?
- How can you tell if somebody wants to be your friend?
- Think of different times in your life when you have felt scared, confused, hopeful and/or happy.



AFTER READING DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Character

- Why did Tilly mistake Tank as an elephant at first? Why did Tank mistake Tilly as an enemy tank at first?
- Tilly was on her morning stroll when she first sees Tank. Tank was on his morning patrol when he first saw Tilly. What does this tell you about the two characters?
- Explain how Tilly felt when she first saw Tank. How did she later feel after she said hello and he responded with a boom?
- Explain how Tank felt when he first saw Tilly. How did he later feel after he said “Boom!” and Tilly responded by running away?

- Why do you think Tilly kept coming back to investigate Tank? Do you think Tilly was brave? Why or why not? Why would Tank have assumed that Tilly’s flower was a weapon? How did he feel when he realized that the flower was not a weapon but instead was just a flower?
- Why was Tilly feeling nervous when Tank came back to see her after scaring her away for the third time?
- Do you think Tilly ever realized that Tank was not an elephant? Why or why not? Do you think it matters if Tilly never realizes that Tank is not an elephant? Explain your thinking.

- What are three words that describe the way Tilly looks? What are three words that describe Tilly’s personality? What are three words that describe the way Tank looks? What are three words that describe Tank’s personality? Are there any similarities between the words you used to describe Tank and Tilly?
- Do you think Tilly and Tank are young or old? Explain your thinking.
- There are three secondary characters in the book that help tell the story through the illustrations. Who are they and how do they help tell the story?

Plot

- At what point in the story did Tank realize that Tilly was not an enemy but a friend?
- Tank made a mistake by scaring Tilly away the third time. How did Tank fix his mistake? Think of a time you have made a mistake. If you were able to, how did you fix the mistake?
- The story ends with a happy sound coming from both Tilly and Tank: THUMP-THUMP. What was making that sound?
- What do you think was the most important event in the story? Explain your thinking.

Vocabulary

- Tilly was “startled” when Tank responded to her hello with a boom. What does the word “startled” mean? What are some other words that mean the same as “startled”? Think of a time you have felt startled.
- Tank was “puzzled” when Tilly ran away when he responded to her hello with a boom. What does the word “puzzled” mean? What are some other words that mean the same as “puzzled”? Think of a time when you have felt puzzled.
- When Tilly first saw Tank, she thought he was a “curious shade of green.” When Tank first saw Tilly, he thought she was a “curious shade of blue.” What does this mean?

Connections

- What kinds of activities do you think Tilly and Tank would like to do together? What do you like to do with your friends?
- Who would you rather be friends with, Tilly or Tank? Why?
- This is a story of two unlikely friends. Think of a different story that you have seen or heard that also tells the story of an unlikely friendship.
- What lesson can be learned from this story about difference, acceptance, and friendship?

FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES

Label the pictures

Label the pictures of Tilly and Tank using the words in the box below.



Describing Tilly

- Circle the words that best describe Tilly. Draw a line through the words that do not describe Tilly.
- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| Angry | Brave |
| Friendly | Mean |
| Hopeful | Confused |
| Kind | Forgiving |

Draw a bouquet

Tank brought Tilly a magnificent bouquet of flowers to show that he wanted to be her friend. Draw and colour a picture of a magnificent bouquet of flowers. Give your picture of the magnificent bouquet of flowers to somebody special to you.

Write a sentence

In your own words, write a sentence that describes what the word “enemy” means. What is the opposite of “enemy”?

Dialogue

There is not a lot of direct speech in the book. On each page, think of speech for Tilly, Tank, and the birds to say.

