

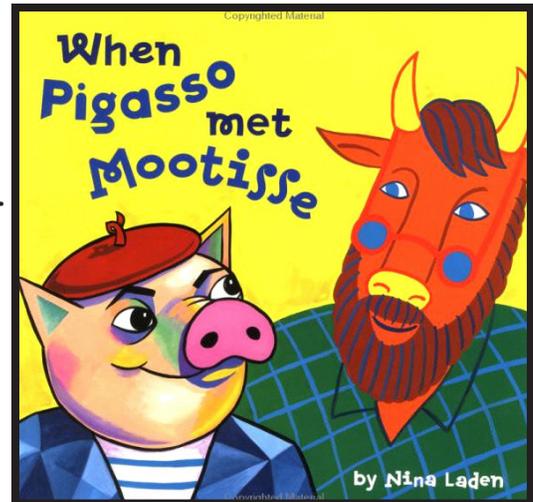
BOOKPALS STORYLINE PRESENTS:

"WHEN PIGASSO MET MOOTISSE"

By *Nina Laden*

Watch online video of actor *Eric Close*
reading this story at <http://www.storylineonline.net>

When Pigasso met Mootisse -- or was it when Mootisse met Pigasso? What begins as a neighborly overture between a painterly pig and an artsy cow escalates into a monumental modern art mess. Before you can say paint-by-numbers, the two artists are calling each other names and ultimately building a fence between them. But it turns out that what divides them also reunites them. And when they accidentally create a masterpiece together, they learn that their friendship is their greatest work of all.



RELATED ACTIVITIES

1. Retell this story in your own words.
2. Discuss and then write about what you enjoyed most about this book.
3. The story talks about a "feud" between Pigasso and Mootisse. Research what a "feud" is. Have you ever had a "feud"? If so, tell or write about it. If you haven't ever had a "feud", interview people and find someone who has had a "feud". Tell or write about their "feud".
4. Tell or write about your advice to Pigasso and Mootisse. What would you tell them about solving their "feud"?
5. This book is also about friendship. According to the author, Nina Laden, "...when Pigasso and Mootisse accidentally create a masterpiece together, they learn that their friendship is their greatest work of all."

What does this mean? Has this ever happened to you? Explain in your own words how friendship could be a masterpiece.

MORE ACTIVITIES

1. Visit a museum in person or online and look up art by Picasso and Matisse.

2. Research the artists Pablo Picasso and Henri Matisse.

What is special about Picasso's artwork?

What is special about Matisse's artwork?

How are their artworks alike?

How are their artworks different?

Which painting by Picasso is your favorite? Explain why.

Which painting by Matisse is your favorite? Explain why.

Make a list of questions you would ask Pablo Picasso if you could interview him.

Make a list of questions you would ask Henri Matisse if you could interview him.

3. Write a report about each of these artists.

4. Look closely at the illustrations in this book. How did Nina Laden have Picasso and Matisse resemble Pablo Picasso and Henri Matisse?

5. Write about what the illustrations show about the artists Pablo Picasso and Henri Matisse in the story.

6. Make a picture in the style of Picasso.

7. Make a picture in the style of Matisse.

8. Survey your friends and family to find out who their favorite artists are. Make a graph to show your findings.

9. Select an artist whose work you like. Make a list of questions you would like this artist to answer. Write a letter to your favorite artist and ask your questions...

INTERNET ACTIVITIES

The specific art techniques of artists Pablo Picasso and Henri Matisse are evident in the book *When Picasso Met Matisse*.

Visit the following websites to learn more about these famous artists.

Go to http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pablo_Picasso to learn about Pablo Picasso. Look at some of the different art work Picasso produced during his life. Make a list of things you would share with someone about his life and work. Find someone with whom to share your information and discuss it.

Go to <http://www.wisdomquotes.com/002064.html> then read the quote by Pablo Picasso about painting like children. What was his message in that quote? What do you see in his art work that supports this quote? Share your answers with an adult. Discuss the change in Picasso's work over his lifetime.

Go to <http://www.kinderart.com/arthistory/meetmatisse.shtml> where you will find much information about Henri Matisse from a teacher. Scroll down to the Matisse Story and read about Henri Matisse and his life. What did people call artists like Matisse who used bright and unusual colors in their art work? Why did they choose that word? Share your work with someone.

Go to <http://www.storyboardtoys.com/gallery/matisse-kids-art-lesson.htm> and find the directions for making a collage in the style of Henri Matisse. Collect the materials you need and follow the directions for making the art work. Explain to someone the steps you followed to complete the task. Display your finished work.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

NINA LADEN grew up in the New York City area. As a child she drew on every available surface and made up stories. She has worked as a freelance illustrator since 1984. Her mother was a painter who loved Picasso's art. Her father is a sculptor and special effects make-up artist who loves Matisse's work. Nina loves creating children's books. She lives with her husband in Seattle, Washington.

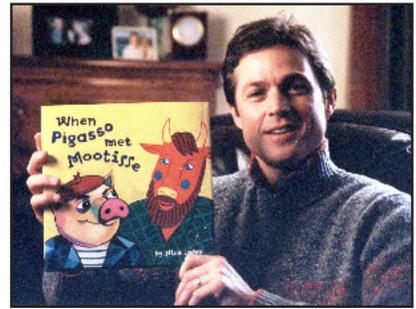
Other books by Nina Laden:

*The Night I Followed the Dog**
Clowns on Vacation
Roberto, The Insect Architect
Peek-A-Who
Bad Dog
Ready-Set-Go
*Private I. Guana: The Case of the Missing Chameleon**
My Family Tree: A Bird's Eye View
Romeow and Drooliet

*These books are also featured on Storyline Online.

ABOUT THE READER

ERIC CLOSE was born in Staten Island, New York, moved to Indiana with his family, then to Michigan and finally settled in San



Diego when Eric was seven years old. After graduating with a B.A. in Communications from the University of Southern California in 1989, Eric decided to pursue his acting career. His theatrical debut in *Rat Song* was followed by work in two films, *American Me* and *Safe House*, then a return to theater with *Thanksgiving Cries*. Since then, Eric has appeared on many television productions including *Santa Barbara*, *Sisters*, *Now and Again*, *Criminal Minds*, *Without a Trace* (for which he directed a number of episodes) and *Chaos*. Married with two children, a world traveler, sportsman and avid reader of historical literature, one of Eric's top priorities is to promote and encourage children toward a lifetime of reading.

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