



# The Boy and the Violin

## READ ALOUD GUIDE

**Themes:** Friendship, Music, Adventure

**Book Brief:** Elias makes some animal friends – and embarks on a surprising adventure in South America!

**Author:**  
Storytime

**Illustrator:**  
Sheyla Nogueira

## BEFORE READING

**The Cover:** Ask students to make a prediction about the story based on the cover and title.

**The Pictures:** Take a quick picture walk and ask students what they notice about the illustrations.

**Prior Knowledge:** Ask, “Have you ever listened to music? How does music make you feel?” (Optional: Think-Pair-Share)

**Vocabulary:** Frontload Tier 2 words using the accompanying Vocabulary Guide.

**Purpose for Reading:** “As we read, think about who is in the story, where it happens, and what important things happen to Elias.”



**Think Aloud:** “I notice that Elias is the main character. He plays the violin and lives in South America. One event in the story is that he makes friends with animals through his music. Let’s keep reading to see what other events happen.”

## DURING READING

### Check for understanding & make connections:

- Who is Elias and what does he like to do?
- What happens when Elias plays his violin?
- How do the animals feel when Elias plays his violin?
- Where does Elias go on his adventure? Why was it so special?

## AFTER READING

**Our Purpose:** “Who was in the story? Where did it happen? What important things happened to Elias?”

**Extending Our Thinking:** Ask students, “If you could make friends with an animal, which animal would you choose? What would you do together?” Connect Elias’s use of music to make friends to how we can connect with others through things we love doing. Encourage students to draw a picture of themselves with an animal friend doing an activity together (like playing music, dancing, playing a game, or going on an adventure). Students can share their drawings and explain what they and their animal friend are doing and why they chose that animal.

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- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more about the topic by reading other books with similar themes, structure, characters, or content.