

Lockdown Tales Activities



I Love You, Blue Kangaroo! *and* What Shall We Do, Blue Kangaroo?

By Emma Chichester Clark

Read for Wonderful Beast's Lockdown Tales by Emma Chichester Clark, with original music by Sylvia Hallett.



EMPATHY DAY: 9TH JUNE 2020 (page 1 of 2)

Empathy is being able to **imagine what someone else is feeling**.

Empathy can be **shown** by **giving support** to someone and **being encouraging**.

Emma's Blue Kangaroo stories tell us lots about empathy. Listen to the stories and **see if you can say where the characters show empathy**. How do the stories **make you feel** about the characters?

I Love You, Blue Kangaroo!

Blue Kangaroo feels very **left out** as Lily is given more and more animals to cuddle up to in bed.

Lily tells them all **she loves them**, and even though **she says she loves Blue Kangaroo too**, he is not convinced and **can't sleep** properly.

When he is pushed out of bed he says sadly '**There is no room for me anymore**', and hops off to join baby in his cot.

When Lily's mummy suggests she **leaves Blue Kangaroo with baby**, Lily is outraged. '**Not Blue Kangaroo!**' she says, and gathers up all her other toys and **gives those to baby instead**.

When Blue Kangaroo is back with Lily she says '**I love you, Blue Kangaroo!**' and he falls **fast asleep** in her arms.

Do you think your toys have feelings? Are you kind to them? Do you have a favourite toy? Can you describe it?

Do you think Lily is thinking of Blue Kangaroo's feelings when she swaps all the other toys for him, or is it that she loves him best after all? Is it a bit of both?

Write a poem about one of your toys, or a pet, and how you think they are feeling. Give your poem a title. Try starting with these lines, but go your own way when you want to.

Are you sad because...?

Are you happy because...?

Are you worried because...?

Are you excited because...? (And so on)

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Write a letter (not an email)! Can you write a letter to a neighbour living alone, or grandparents, an auntie, or a friend you haven't seen for a long time? You could **tell them what you are doing**, tell them **a joke**, what you **miss most**, and **ask about what they are doing** and **how they are feeling**. **Illustrate your letter** with a drawing, to make it more fun and interesting.

Post your poems and letters to: *Wonderful Beast, 150 High Street, Aldeburgh, Suffolk, IP15 5AQ and we will put them on our website for everyone to see.*

What Shall We Do, Blue Kangaroo?

Blue Kangaroo is **full of admiration** for everything Lily can do - drawing dinosaurs, reading a book, making a tea party for all her animals.

When the rain falls, Lily rushes to get all the animals inside but Tiny Teddy is left behind. Her father asks her to stop her baby brother crying so Lily reads to him, at which he is amazed and **congratulates her**.

When night falls and everyone is asleep, Blue Kangaroo **realises that Tiny Teddy is missing** and must have been forgotten.

He goes out in the dark and rain, finds wet Tiny Teddy, and brings him into the house to warm by the radiator.

In the morning Lily finds Tiny Teddy, still wet, and realizing that Blue Kangaroo must have rescued him, she says '**You are so clever. What would I do without you?**'

*Even though Blue Kangaroo never says anything, he **feels** everything. He **loves** Lily and **admires** her.*

Do you think Lily knows how he feels? Sometimes we can't say what we feel, just like Blue Kangaroo.

*In I Love You Blue Kangaroo!, Blue Kangaroo was jealous. Now that he is **sure** Lily loves him, he is able to think about others.*

Do you think you need to be happy yourself, to be able to show empathy?

Does being kind to someone make you feel happy inside? Does it give you a nice cosy feeling?

During Lockdown, how many ways can you think of for us to be especially kind to people?

Some people are feeling very lonely. Even things as simple as a chat, a smile, a wave, a zoom call, can show our empathy for their feelings.

Send us videos and pictures of your activities! Use the hashtag **#LockdownTales**
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