Don’t Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!

10th Birthday Celebration activity kit!

Is that a birthday cake?

Mo!
Dear Reader:

Can you believe that I have been asking (nicely, I might add!) to drive the bus for ten years? TEN YEARS!!

Sure, I've also asked for hot dogs, to play with puppies, to stay up late, and for a cookie, but what I REALLY want for my birthday is to drive the bus (you know I deserve it).

You should check out this event kit, because it's all about ME, and all the things I've asked for (I don't ask for much) over the last ten years. Did I mention it's been ten years?! There's also some cool stuff for you to do to celebrate ME.

Oh, and don't forget to go to MY Web site (PigeonPresents.com) for more fun and more about ME!

Sincerely,

Pigeon ♦

(and all the little birdies at Hyperion Books for Children)
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Art © Mo Willems
Use these party planning ideas for your Pigeon celebration!

➤ Serve Snacks!

Pigeon’s favorite foods include hot dogs and cookies. Create a hot dog bar with several condiments to choose from, or consider making mini hot dogs in the form of pigs in a blanket.

For dessert, plan to serve cookies or blue frosted cupcakes.

➤ Pass the Birthday Present

YOU’LL NEED:
• A prize
• A box
• Wrapping or tissue paper
• Music

TIP: Before you begin, place the prize in a box and wrap the box in several layers of paper.

HOW TO PLAY:
Sit all the children in a circle and start the music. Have the children pass the present around until the music stops. Whoever is holding the present at this point must tear off a layer of paper. Repeat the process until all layers of paper are removed. Whichever child removes the final layer of paper gets the prize!

➤ Have a Puppet Show!

After the children make the finger puppets on pages 8 and 9, have them write a script and perform a puppet show! Having the audience in front of a couch and the puppeteers behind it makes a great puppet theater.

➤ Duck, Duck, Pigeon

Remember Duck, Duck, Goose? This is Duck, Duck, Pigeon!

HOW TO PLAY:
All of the children except one sit in a circle facing one another. The remaining person goes around the circle, tapping each child gently on the head and saying “Duck.”

When the tapper says “Pigeon,” the child whose head was just touched jumps up and chases the tapper around the circle.

If the tapper can get all the way back to the pigeon’s spot without getting tagged by the pigeon, the pigeon becomes the new tapper and the game continues. But if the pigeon catches the tapper, the tapper continues his or her walk around the circle for a new round.

➤ Pigeon Says

HOW TO PLAY:
A fun take on the game Simon Says! Choose a leader to act as “Pigeon.” He or she will call out a series of commands the children must follow. The children must do any commandment that begins with “Pigeon says.” But if a child performs a task that doesn’t begin with “Pigeon says,” he or she is out of the game! Continue until you have one player left.
Let’s Draw the Pigeon!

1. Start with a big letter “O”. (It appears in words like “Mo”!)

2. Now, draw a smaller letter “O” inside of it. (You’ve drawn a doughnut!)

3. Next, you have a choice between two letters — “M” or “W” — but draw the letter on its side. (You made a beak!)

4. We’re going to place the eye next, which is the most important part of the drawing, because the eye shows how the character is feeling. Make sure to darken it in. (You always look at the darkest part of a drawing first!)

5. Draw two lines going straight down for the neck.

6. Next, draw two lines across the neck for the collar.

7. The body is a circ-angle, a triangle and a circle combined. (It kind of looks like an ice cream cone that’s fallen over.)

8. The legs are two more lines straight down from the body. (Just like the neck!)

9. Almost done! Draw the letter “V” three times. The first two are upside down for the feet. The third is on its side in the body for the wing.

FINISHED!

Great job! That’s an awesome Pigeon! Once you’ve gotten the basic drawing down, mix it up. Move his beak, his wings, his eye, and his legs to create lots of different poses and emotions!
Practice Drawing the Pigeon

Use the guide on the left to draw your first pigeon, then draw the next one by yourself on the right!
Practice Drawing the Pigeon

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Art © Mo Willems

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PigeonPresents.com | Hyperion Books for Children | REPRODUCIBLE ACTIVITY SHEET
Let’s Make Pigeon and Duckling Finger Puppets!

Just follow these simple steps. **You will need:**

- **Crayons**
- **Scissors**
- **Tape**

1. Color the puppets on the next page.

2. Cut along the dashed lines to cut out the puppets.

3. Fold each puppet in half along the black solid line.

4. Cut along the dotted lines.

5. Roll the bottom into a tube so that the arrows touch; then, tape it together. It should be a little bit bigger than your finger.

6. Yay! You just made finger puppets!
What is the one thing the Pigeon wants more than ANYTHING else? To drive the bus, of course!

What would you say if Pigeon asked you if he could drive the bus? Draw yourself and your response below!

Hey, can I drive the bus?
What Do **YOU** Want to Drive?

The Pigeon wants to drive the bus, but what do **YOU** want to drive? Draw it in the space below!
The Pigeon Wants a Maze!

Help Pigeon grab a hot dog, a bunny, a friend, and a puppy on his way to the bus!
Oh, hello.
Coloring Page!
Spot the Differences!

Pictures A and B are almost the same. Circle the 10 differences in picture B.
Pigeon Party Name Tags!

Have the children cut out, color, and write their names on the name tags. Use tape to attach the name tags to each child’s shirt.

Art © Mo Willems
Match the Pigeon Pose!

Draw a line to connect the matching Pigeon poses below.
It’s a Pigeon Party!

I have dreams, you know!

Don’t Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!

words and pictures by Mo Willems

Place:

Date:

Time:
The Pigeon Wants a Maze!  PAGE 12

Spot the Differences!  PAGE 16

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Mo Willems, a number one New York Times best-selling author and illustrator, has been awarded a Caldecott Honor on three occasions (for Don’t Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!, Knuffle Bunny: A Cautionary Tale, and Knuffle Bunny Too: A Case of Mistaken Identity). Don’t Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus! was also an inaugural inductee into the Indies Choice Picture Book Hall of Fame. And his celebrated Elephant & Piggie early reader series has been awarded two Theodor Seuss Geisel Medals (for There Is a Bird on Your Head! and Are You Ready to Play Outside?) and three Geisel Honors (for We Are in a Book!, I Broke My Trunk!, and Let’s Go for a Drive!). Other favorites include The Duckling Gets a Cookie? and Leonardo, the Terrible Monster.