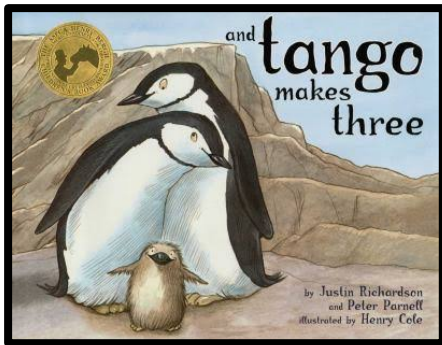


And Tango Makes Three

By Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell, Illustrated by Henry Cole

Elementary Discussion and Activity Guide

by the Oakland Unified School District, adapted for the REad-In by
the Oakland Public Education Fund



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And Tango Makes Three is the true story about two male penguins who live in the Central Park Zoo. With the help of their zookeeper, Mr. Gramzay, Roy and Silo become parents. Although Roy and Silo may be a little different than other parents, ultimately they care and love their baby like all the other penguin parents.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION BEFORE READING “AND TANGO MAKES THREE”

Reading and discussing *And Tango Makes Three* will help students develop their own understanding of the essential elements of a family. “And Tango Makes Three” is appropriate for all elementary grade levels.

Answering Difficult Questions:

If you don’t have the answer to a question: *That’s a good question, but I’m not sure of the answer. I will find out and get back to you.*

If a question is not appropriate: *We aren’t talking about that in class. Please ask an adult at home.*

If there is/are (a) student(s) who has/have two moms, two dads, or gay/lesbian family members: Some students may feel excited to share information about their family and other students prefer to be more private. Students should decide for themselves what they would like to share. Students with two moms or two dads are not responsible to teach the class about gay and lesbian people.

PART ONE: PRE-READING REFLECTION AND INTRODUCTION

Show the class the cover of *And Tango Makes Three* and ask the students to share prediction about the story.

PART TWO: READ AND TANGO MAKES THREE

Discussion Questions During Reading:

1. How are Roy and Silo the same as the other penguins?
2. How are Roy and Silo different than the other penguins?
3. Why did Mr. Gramzay think that Roy and Silo were in-love?
4. Why did Mr. Gramzay give them an egg?
5. How do you think Roy and Silo knew just what to do with the egg that Mr. Gramzay gave them?

Part THREE: Reflection and Review

Ask them what they enjoyed about the book.

Younger students:

- I enjoyed *And Tango Makes Three* because.....
- One thing I would change about *And Tango Makes Three* is.....
- Roy and Silo are.....
- Tango is....
- Reading *And Tango Makes Three* makes me feel....
- One question I still have is...

Older Students:

- A short summary of *And Tango Makes Three*
- What they enjoyed about the book
- What they would have changed
- Questions that were raised

