



LEARNING CONNECTIONS / DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

PETE THE CAT

Based on the book series by James Dean

Adapted by Jon Ludwig and Jason Hines

Directed by Jon Ludwig

Our groovy puppet show features some of Pete the Cat's most awesome adventures, inspired by some of the most awesome Pete the Cat books! Read below for the titles of some of those books, and for ways you can connect them to classroom learning!

Book synopses courtesy of <http://www.petethecatbooks.com>.

That website also features some terrific classroom learning activities.

Please note: as with all adaptations, some changes between page and stage have been made to create our unique puppet show—use this as an opportunity to speak with your students about what's different and what's the same in the books and in the play!

Pete the Cat and the Bedtime Blues

BOOK SYNOPSIS: Pete the Cat and his friends are having so much fun playing and surfing in the sun, they don't want the day to end. Pete has an idea—how about a sleepover? Groovy! As the night gets later, it's time for bed. This cool cat needs to catch some ZZZs, but Pete's friends aren't ready to go to sleep just yet. Then Pete has another idea. . . . Will it work?

- What is a “routine”? Do you have any bedtime routines? Why are routines important?
- Why is sleep important for our bodies? How many hours of sleep do you get every night?
- What are some things you and your friends like to do? Is it okay to like different things? How can you compromise when your friends wish to do something different than you'd like to do?

Pete the Cat's Got Class

BOOK SYNOPSIS: When Pete's friend Tom has a tough time with math, our favorite blue cat steps in to help him out. With good friends, fun learning tools, and some extra help, it all adds up. Pete the Cat knows you can't hate math—you just don't love it yet!

- What different types of math operations do you know?
- How and why do you use math outside of school?
- What are ways that you have made learning math fun?

Pete the Cat and His Magic Sunglasses

BOOK SYNOPSIS: Pete the Cat wakes up feeling grumpy—nothing seems to be going his way. But with the help of some magic sunglasses, Pete learns that a good mood has been inside him all along. Fans of Pete the Cat will love watching him take his positive outlook and transform a grumpy day into an awesome day!

- When have you felt grumpy, sad or angry? What other emotions do you feel and when do you feel them?

- How do you cheer up when you feel grumpy or sad? How do you calm down when you feel angry?
- How can you recognize when a friend's needs help dealing with his or her emotions?

Pete the Cat and the New Guy

BOOK SYNOPSIS: There's a new guy in town, and Pete can't wait to meet him. After all, more friends mean more fun. But who can he be? When Pete finally meets Gus, he realizes they're very different from each other . . . but that's what makes him cool. Gus is special in his own way, just like Pete and just like you, and there is something everyone can do! The message of acceptance shines through and is perfect for young readers learning to navigate the social waters. Fans of Pete the Cat will delight in the rhythmic storytelling and fun repetition throughout the book.

- Have you ever been “the new guy”? How did that make you feel?
- How can you help a “new guy” feel welcomed in your class, school, activity, or playground?
- What are some things that make you and your friends unique and how can you celebrate those differences?

Pete the Cat: Robo-Pete

BOOK SYNOPSIS: When Pete's friends don't want to play the same games as he does, Pete has a great idea—he'll build a robot that's just like him! But when Robo-Pete gets a little out of control, Pete realizes the best thing about his friends is that no matter what they like to play, it's always fun when they're all together.

- What are some things you and your friends like to do? Is it okay to like different things? How can you compromise when your friends wish to do something different than you'd like to do?
- Why is playing with others sometimes as much fun and playing by yourself?
- What is a “robot”? What robots are around you at school, at home, at the store, in restaurants, when you are traveling etc.?

Pete the Cat: Rock On, Mom and Dad!

BOOK SYNOPSIS: Mom and Dad do so much for Pete that he wants to thank them with a special surprise. But what can Pete do that will show Mom and Dad how much he loves them? In this groovy story, Pete learns that the best way to say thank you is to mean it. Young readers will love watching Pete surprise Mom and Dad with something totally awesome.

- How can you use your talents to tell someone you appreciate them?
- When someone thanks you for something, how does that make you feel?
- Who in your life do you appreciate and why?

Pete the Cat: Scuba-Cat

BOOK SYNOPSIS: Pete the Cat is going scuba diving! Before he hits the water, Captain Joe tells him about all the sea creatures he can encounter, and Pete is super excited to see a seahorse. But when he is suited up and swimming around, he has to search high and low to find the little guy. In this aquatic adventure, Pete makes a new friend and gets a big surprise!

- Have you ever been swimming? How is it different from/similar to scuba diving?
- What special equipment do you need to have/do in order to go scuba diving safely? What are some other activities that require you to train or practice to do them well, and what special equipment do you need to enjoy these things safely?
- What are some animals that live under water, and what makes them special?