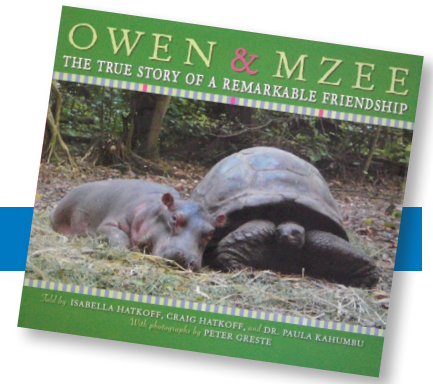


Owen & Mzee

The True Story of a Remarkable Friendship



RIF EXTENSION ACTIVITIES FOR EDUCATORS

THINK-TAC-TOE ACTIVITY OPTIONS

- ◆ Individual students can choose an activity to complete.
- ◆ Student pairs or cooperative groups can work together on a choice of their own.
- ◆ Educator can assign an activity for an individual, pairs, or groups.

<p>TORTOISE TIMELINE</p> <p>Mzee is an Aldabra tortoise. When Owen joins him at the wildlife park, Mzee is 130 years old. When was Mzee born? Make a timeline that highlights major world events that happened during his lifetime. Be creative with your presentation. You must include at least two events from each decade.</p> <p><i>Science, Math, Social Studies</i></p>	<p>TSUNAMI SEARCH</p> <p>Owen was stranded at sea in the aftermath of the tsunami that hit Indonesia in 2004. Research to find out more about tsunamis, including their causes, recent tsunamis, and their effects on humans, animals, and the environment. Share your findings in a PowerPoint, poster, or brochure.</p> <p><i>Science, Math, Social Studies</i></p>	<p>WALK ON THE WILD SIDE</p> <p>Write a story or draw a comic about the day you and your best friend were turned into animals. What happened? What kind of animals were you? Did you still get along? How did you turn back into humans? Draw a picture to go with your story. Research to include 5 facts about the animals you and your friend turned into.</p> <p><i>Writing, Science</i></p>
<p>IN HIS SHOES</p> <p>Imagine you're Owen. How do you feel about everything happening in your life? Write 7 journal entries from different points during the story explaining what Owen thinks and feels. Write 1 more entry set at least a month after the story. How has Owen's life changed by then? Are he and Mzee still friends?</p> <p><i>Writing, Science</i></p>	<p>COMPARING FRIENDS</p> <p>Find out more about hippos and Aldabra tortoises. What do they eat? Where do they live? How big are they? How long do they live? Do they like the water? Make a Venn diagram to compare the two animals. Make a second Venn diagram to compare you and your best friend. Do you have more or less in common than Owen and Mzee?</p> <p><i>Science, Writing</i></p>	<p>MZEE MATH</p> <p>Find out how big the average Aldabra tortoise is, how much food it eats per day, and how fast it can travel. Use this information to write 5 word problems. Write down the answers on a separate sheet of paper, then switch problems with a friend and solve!</p> <p><i>Math, Science, Writing</i></p>
<p>PARKS AND REC</p> <p>Big news: Your school is going to be getting 2 hippos, 4 tortoises, and 6 elephants! You need to design a park that will make the animals feel at home. Research to find out what kind of <i>habitat</i> each animal needs. Draw pictures or build a model to show your park design. Be sure to include measurements to show how big your park will be.</p> <p><i>Engineering, Art, Math, Science, Technology</i></p>	<p>LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!</p> <p>How would you like to make your own movie about Owen and Mzee? Go online to www.owenandmzee.com and click on "videomaker." Think about the <i>sequence</i> of the story as you create your video. Share your video with the class or with a partner.</p> <p><i>Technology, Science, Art</i></p>	<p>BFF?</p> <p>Do you think Owen and Mzee are still friends? In 2006, researchers introduced Owen to a new friend, Cleo. Use the internet to learn more about Cleo and Owen. Did Cleo change Owen and Mzee's friendship? Write a persuasive paper on why scientists should or should not have introduced Cleo and Owen.</p> <p><i>Technology, Writing, Science</i></p>