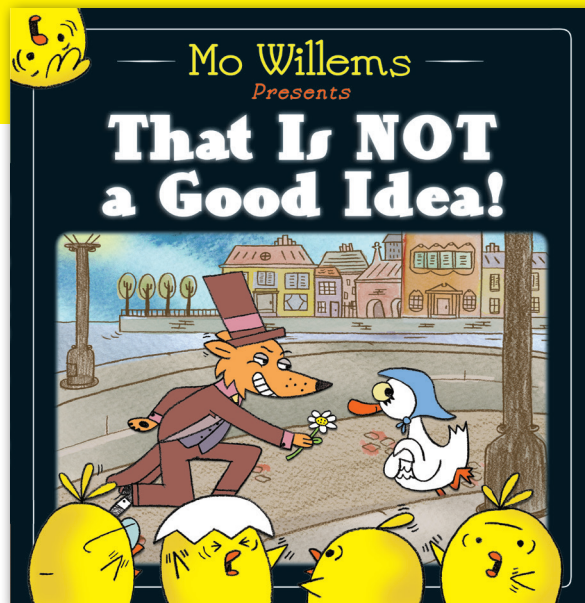


Another Mo Willems book? *That Is NOT a Good Idea!*

About the Book

One day, a very hungry fox meets a very plump goose. A dinner invitation is offered. Will he outfox her, or will her goose be cooked? (Don't forget to listen to the baby geese!) From the brilliant mind of Mo Willems comes a surprising lesson about listening to your inner gosling.



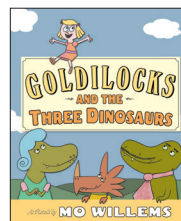
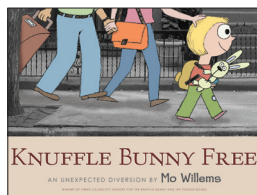
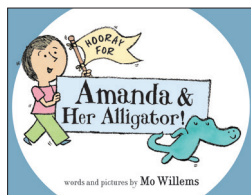
About the Author

MO WILLEMS knows a Good Idea when he sees one. A three-time Caldecott Honor winner (for *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!*, *Knuffle Bunny: A Cautionary Tale*, and *Knuffle Bunny Too: A Case of Mistaken Identity*), he also won two Geisel Medals and three Geisel Honors for his *Elephant and Piggie* books. His books are perennial *New York Times* bestsellers, including *Goldilocks and the Three Dinosaurs*, *Knuffle Bunny Free: An Unexpected Diversion*, *Hooray for Amanda & Her Alligator!*, and the *Cat the Cat* series. Before he turned to making picture books, Mo was a writer and animator on *Sesame Street*, where he won six Emmys. Mo lives with his family in Massachusetts.



Photo by Marty Umans

Other Good Ideas by Mo Willems



A Note for Grown-ups

The following activity suggestions are for kids to do as a class or individually. Some can be done in the classroom or library, some are best done at home, and others can be done anywhere. There are no bad ideas when it comes to having fun!

BALZER + BRAY

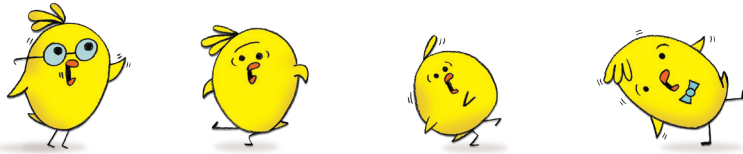
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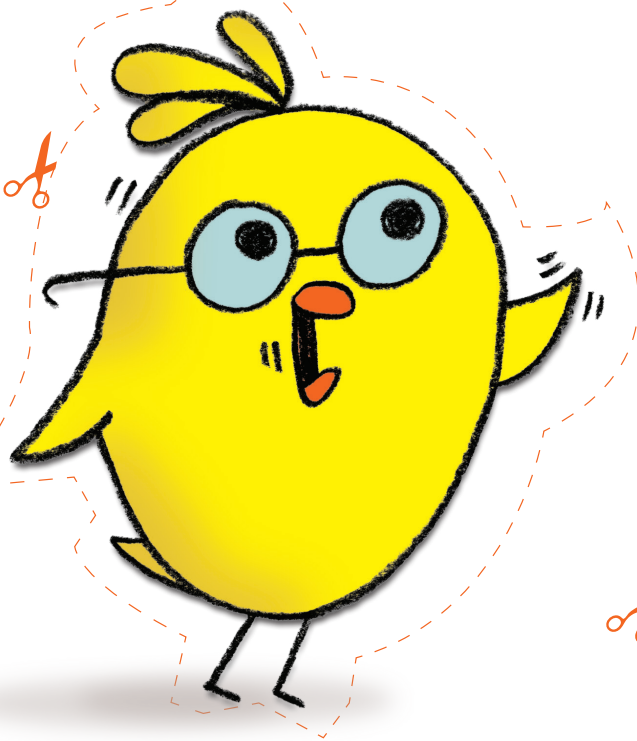
Art © 2013 by Mo Willems

Good Ideas for Chiming In

The baby geese know a good (and bad) idea when they see one. Make these cheerful finger puppets and you, too, can chime in when your friends and family are about to do something they shouldn't!



With a grown-up's help, photocopy this page and cut out each of the baby geese puppets along the dotted lines. Create a tape loop for each finger puppet, sticking one side of the tape to the tip of your index finger and the other to the gosling. With a friend, take turns making the chicks come to life with different voices!



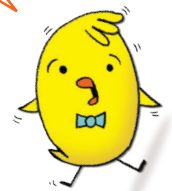
GOOD IDEA!
Have grown-ups read the story as Fox and Goose, while kids chime in as the baby geese!



GOOD IDEA!
Have the goslings chime in during other Mo Willems books, letting the characters know when something is NOT a good idea.



Aren't we handsome?!



Safety Note: It's always a good idea to ask permission from a grown-up before using scissors.

BALZER+BRAY

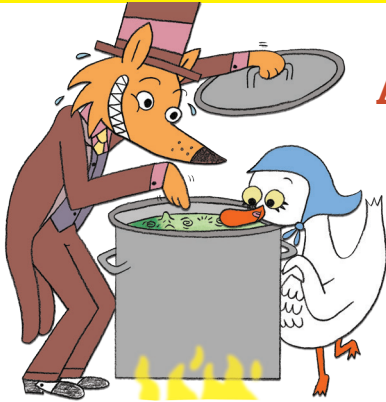
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Good Ideas for Having Fun

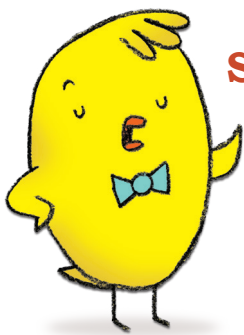
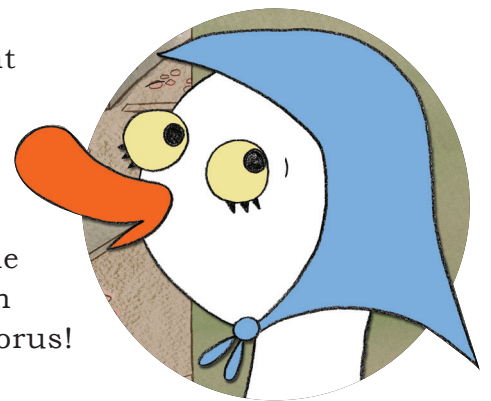


A Key Ingredient

Goose's soup is missing a key ingredient. What do you think it is? Gather (or make!) some play food and put a pot or a bucket on the floor in an open area. Stand four to five feet behind the pot and take turns tossing in ingredients. Everyone who gets an ingredient into the pot gets a point, and the first person to get ten points wins!

Sock Stage

The story of *That Is NOT a Good Idea!* is told in the style of a silent movie or performance with Fox, Goose, and the baby geese as the stars. Put on a performance of your own! Set up a puppet stage and choose a story to tell (some good ideas to choose from: "Little Red Riding Hood," "The Emperor's New Clothes," "Hansel and Gretel," "The Shoemaker and the Elves"). Make scenery for the background and sock or paper-bag puppets for your cast. You can even use the gosling puppets from the back of this poster as a chorus!



Sing It Out

Write a song for the chorus of baby geese to sing. You can either use the gosling chorus's lines from the book ("That is really, really NOT a good idea!", etc.) and put them to music, or make up your own words and tune. Use the gosling finger puppets from the back of this poster to sing your song loud and proud!

Soup's On

Goose and her baby geese like Fox soup. What kind of soup is your favorite? With a grown-up's help, find a recipe for your favorite kind of soup and cook some for you and your family. You can let everyone know dinner's ready by saying, "Would you care to have some of my soup?" (To which the proper response would be, "Certainly. I do love soup!")



Good Ideas for Keeping Busy



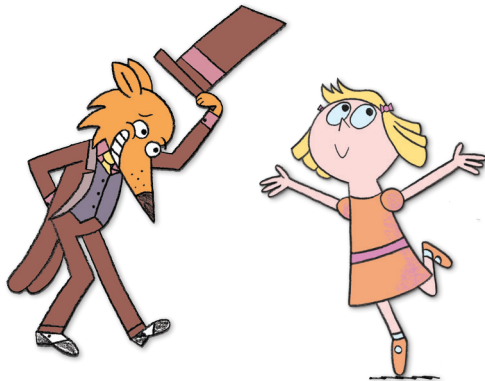
Eureka!

Everyone has good ideas (and some bad ones), but sometimes it's easy to forget ideas as soon as you've thought them up! Ask a grown-up for help stapling several sheets of paper together into a "Good Idea Journal."

Decorate the cover and then carry the journal with you so you can write down all of your brilliant thoughts!

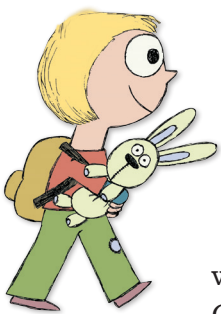
Surprise!

Mo Willems is a master of surprise endings. Here's a good idea for writing your own story with a surprise ending: pair up with a friend or classmate and have each partner write the beginning of a story. Then switch stories with your partner. Have him or her write the ending to your story, and you write the ending to your partner's story. It's guaranteed to surprise you!



Two Tales

Read *Goldilocks and the Three Dinosaurs* and *That Is NOT a Good Idea!*, and talk to your friends or classmates about how the books are similar and how they're different. Are they both based on fairy tales? Do they both have surprise endings? Do they both have narrators?



Mo' Books, Mo' Fun

Choose three characters from different Mo Willems books and write a story that features all of them. What would happen if Hungry Fox met Amanda and Alligator walking down the street one day? What would Trixie and Goldilocks do if they had a playdate? Let your imagination come up with all kinds of good ideas!

