

# City Dog, Country Frog

## A RIF GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

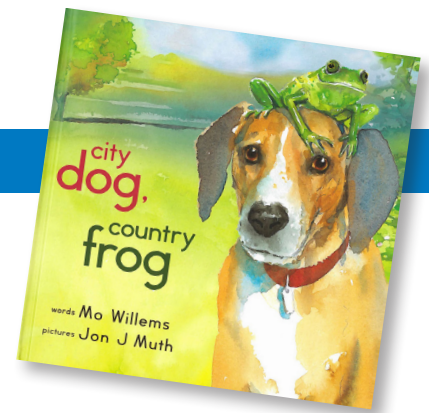
**Themes:** Seasons, Life Cycle, Friendship

**Grade Level:** K to 1st grade

**Book Brief:** The book tells the story of two unlikely friends, city dog and country frog.

**Author:**  
Mo Willems

**Illustrator:**  
Jon J. Muth



## TIME TO READ!

**Before reading, make comparisons:** How are the city and country alike? How are they different?

**While reading, make predictions:** As you read, pause when the season changes. Ask your child which season comes next. What do they think will happen next in the story?

**After reading, ask questions:**

- ◆ Why did the city dog go to the country each season?
- ◆ How were the beginning and the end of the story alike?
- ◆ Which parts of this story could be real? Which parts couldn't?

## RELATED ACTIVITIES

### FROGS ON A LOG

Ingredients: large pretzel rods, peanut butter, green chocolate candies

Spread peanut butter across one side of the pretzel. Put five green candies on top to represent frogs. Sing "Five Green and Speckled Frogs," eating one frog with each verse until all the frogs are gone!

*(Five green and speckled frogs sat on a speckled log, eating some most delicious bugs. One jumped into the pool where it was nice and cool, now there are four green speckled frogs. Yum Yum!)*

### HOP HOP HOORAY!

Help your child practice direction words with a fun hopping game. Give verbal directions like, "Hop over the shoe," or "Hop beside the sofa." For an extra challenge, add two directions together: "Hop around the table and sit behind the chair."



### SEASONAL JOURNAL

Materials: small notebook, pencil, crayons

Talk about the current season with your child. Go for a walk outside together. Bring a notebook so your child can write down observations about the weather, record plant and animal sightings, or even make leaf rubbings or drawings. As the season begins to change, have your child make more entries in the journal.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### OTHER BOOKS ABOUT FRIENDSHIP

*Fluffy and Baron*, Laura Rankin (2006), *Forever Friends*, Carin Berger (2011), *Owen and Mzee*, Isabella Hatkoff, Craig Hatkoff and Dr. Paula Kahumbu (2006).



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