

## READING WITH BILL PEET

### Getting Started

If you have never done an author study with your class, try it! You and your students will experience a new feeling about reading.

After choosing the author you wish to present to your class, inform the librarian. She/he will probably collect and save the books you will need for the time period required. Visit the public library to add to your supply and ask the students to check their collection of books at home.

### Input Suggestions: Presentations

To start, become familiar with the author and some of his/her books. With Bill Peet, I would introduce him to the entire class. This avoids repetition when a new group begins the unit. Give the students some background information on the author/illustrator. An autobiography and photograph are available upon request from the Houghton Mifflin Company.

Have the Bill Peet books on display, to arouse the students' interest. Tell your students that Bill Peet's books are written in two styles: **prose** and **poetry**. Present a book of each style to the class before a group begins its independent study. You might read one book per week and allow your students to complete a variety of follow-up activities.

As you present the books, encourage the students to read the pictures and to observe the facial expressions and actions of the characters. Remind them to use a dictionary for a better understanding of the rich vocabulary they will encounter so that they may apply the words and expressions to their own creative work.

Have charts up so that students can add to them regularly.

e.g. 1. New Words

2. Synonyms for "said"

3. Sound Words

4. Descriptive Words

5. Meet "Bill Peet's" Characters

6. Words I Liked

7. Syllables- students add words from the books on a syllable chart.

Each chart will focus on a specific skill according to the needs of your students.





Students Create

### Just for Fun!

Design a gameboard using the characters, settings and ideas from the Bill Peet books.

Make up a set of playing cards to go along with your gameboard.

Outline a few rules for the game.

Put your game at the games centre for others to enjoy.

Plan your ideas on newsprint.

When you are satisfied with your results, design your game board on bristleboard.



Students Create

### Painting

Paint a picture that shows :

1. the setting of a Bill Peet story
2. a Bill Peet character



Students Create

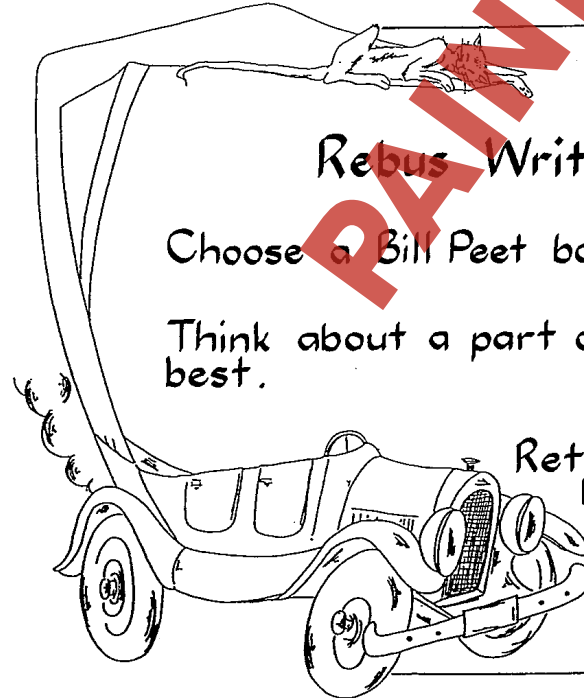
### Rebus Writing

Choose a Bill Peet book you enjoyed reading.

Think about a part of the book you liked best.

Retell this part of the book in rebus writing.

See if a classmate can read your "rebus" story.



Students Create

### Character Cutouts

Make a stand-up cutout of the Bill Peet character you liked best.

Let the character stand on the corner of your desk when you are reading Bill Peet books.

To make a stand use :

1. a ruler in plasticine
2. a small juice can
3. a V-stand made from cardboard



Students Create

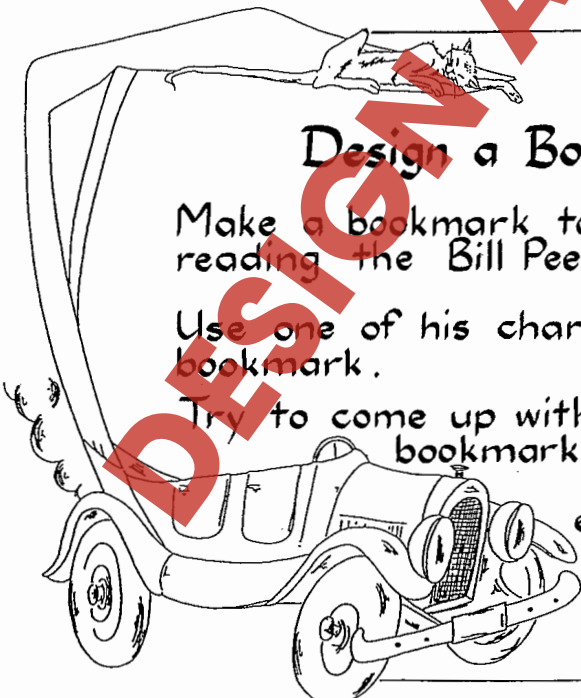
### Design a Bookmark

Make a bookmark to use while you are reading the Bill Peet books.

Use one of his characters on your bookmark.

Try to come up with a caption for your bookmark.

e.g. I'm a Bill Peet fan!  
Calling all Bill Peet fans!



Students Create

### Read all about it!

Design a poster advertising one of Bill Peet's books.

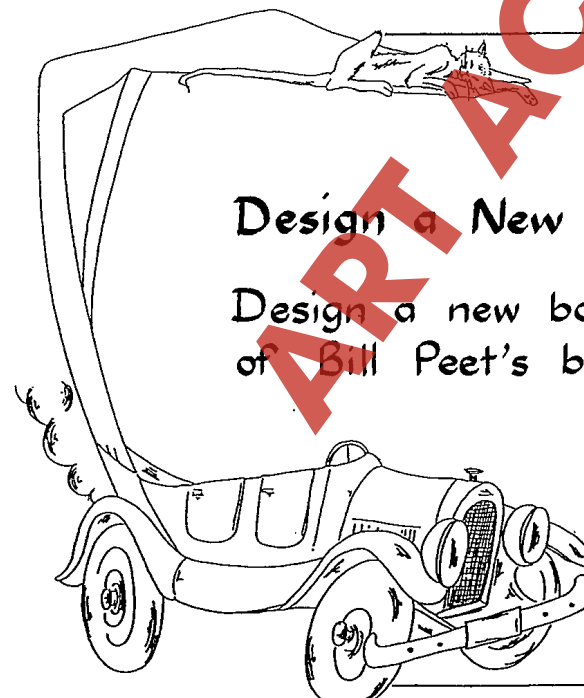


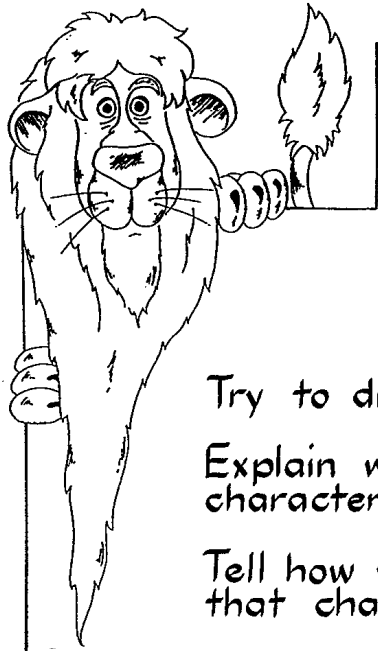
Students Create

### Design a New Book Cover

Design a new book jacket for one of Bill Peet's books.

Make it eye-catchy!





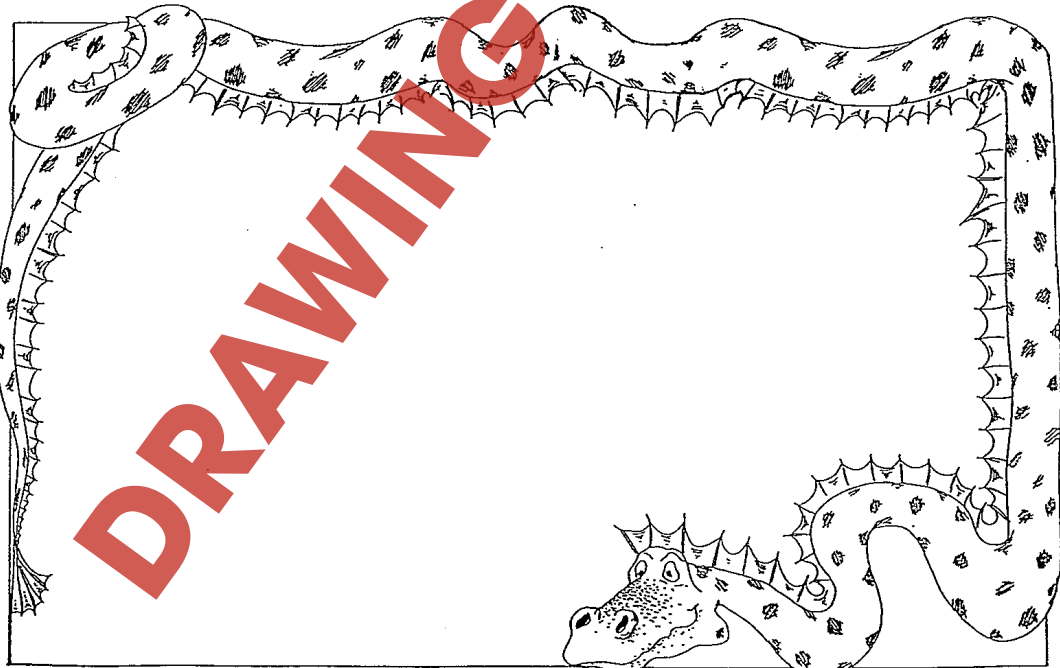
### Students Create Bill Peet's Characters

If you could travel into the imaginary world of Bill Peet, which character would you like to be?

Try to draw that character.

Explain why you would like to be that character.

Tell how you would spend your day as that character.



### Character Development

#### Graphing

Take a survey of the class and find out which book or character is the most popular.

Record your results in a graph.

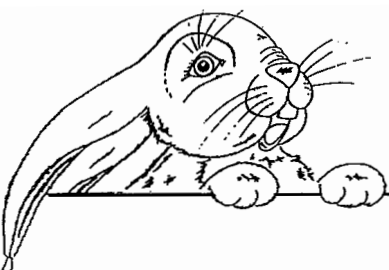
### Character Development

#### The Best of Bill Peet

Bill Peet has written many books.

Which Bill Peet book, that you read, did you like best?

Explain why you liked the book you chose.



### Viewing and Analyzing

Bill Peet does his own illustrations for the books he writes. He tries to make his pictures come alive.

Browse through a few of Bill Peet's books.

Choose one book and try to find examples of how Bill Peet makes his illustrations appeal to the reader.



### Sequence of Events

Divide a long strip of paper into six parts.

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Show the main events of the story in six cartoon frames.

Cut up the cartoon and put the pieces in an envelope.

Print the title of the story on the envelope.

Have a friend arrange the cartoon in the correct sequence.