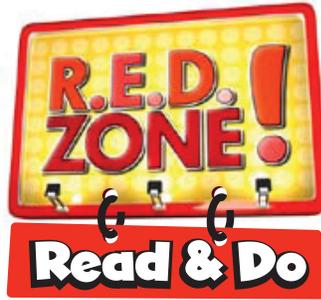


# There Is a Bird on Your Head!

by Mo Willems

Simple sentences and dialogue build a story around an irresistibly absurd situation.



## Read

### Before:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow that with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, *Elephant and Piggie are best friends and always help each other. This time Piggie helps Elephant with a funny problem.* Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an "I wonder" statement based on the cover illustration.

- I wonder why that bird is on the elephant's head?

### During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions, and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end.

### After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- Is Elephant happy that a bird is on his head? How can you tell?
- What did Piggie say when Elephant asked what two birds were doing on his head?
- What did the two birds use to make their nest?
- Was Elephant happy that the birds were making a nest? How can you tell?
- How many eggs were in the nest?
- How do you think Elephant felt when he found out the eggs were hatching on his head?
- Where did Elephant want the birds, chicks and nest to go?
- How did Elephant finally get the birds, chicks and nest off of his head?
- Was Piggie happy that the birds, chicks and nest moved to his head?

## Do

### Build a Bird's Nest Activity

Birds spend hours searching for and collecting materials to make a cozy nest, so why not help them out? Lend them a hand -- or wing -- by trying this Build a Bird's Nest Activity.

What You'll Need:

Nature and human-made materials

Modeling clay

In addition to twigs and leaves, birds like to use bits of string, yarn, lint, and other human-made materials to build and furnish their homes.

Take a walk outside and pretend that you are a bird that needs to make a nest. See what building materials you can find. Look for natural materials like leaves and twigs, and also for human-made materials.

When you get back home, shape some modeling clay into a bird's nest. Line the inside and outside of the nest with the things you collected, until you come up with the perfect bird home.

Source: [www.home.howstuffworks.com](http://www.home.howstuffworks.com)

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