Turk and Runt

written by Lisa Wheeler ◆ illustrated by Frank Ansley

Crafts: Create a Turk and Runt napkin ring holder set.

- Materials:
- wooden ice cream spoons, or craft spoons for feathers
- toilet or paper towel tubes
- red construction paper, cut like a turkey waddle
- brown paint
- marker
- orange pipe cleaners, optional

Paint one spoon yellow, the others a variety of feather colors.

Cut a two inch section of tube, and paint brown.

Glue yellow spoon to front after drawing turkey face, and glue on red wattle.

Glue feathers to back, decorate with feather markings.

Use marker to add accessories to look like Runt's family: glasses, hats, football etc.

Game: Turkey Trot

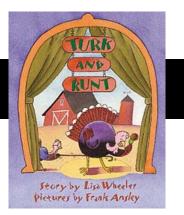
Pair up! Link arms and race to a finish line. What's the catch? You've got to carry your turkey (a stuffed grocery bag, tied with string and decorated like your favorite Turk and runt character). Get gobbling!

Dinner Theater:

Print out the pages to create paper bag puppets for all the characters. Then, hide behind the couch and put on your own presentation of this Thanksgiving comedy! You'll need the print outs, scissors, paper lunch bags, glue, crayons and markers, and a variety of voices!! (The mouth section goes underneath the flap of the paper bag, so that it looks like the animal or person is talking!)

Play I-Spy with the Turk and Runt book:

- What letter creates the doors of the barn?
- What does the pig use to drink out of the trough?
- How many apples are left on the tree?
- What type of dog does Madame Waddelle have?
- Which three characters show their teeth?
- What shape is the ring that one character wears?
- What's the name of the football team?
- Which direction is the weather vane pointing?
- How many different animals live on Wishbone farm?
- What tool leans against the barn?
- Is there outgoing mail?



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Knowledge

Who are the main characters in this story? Define the conflict (or for younger readers: problem) in the story.

Comprehension

Retell the events of the story in your own words. Explain why you think no one ever listens to Runt.

Application

What would you do to convince them if you were Runt? Illustrate your favorite scene in the book.

Analysis

Compare the three villains: Madame Waddelle, The Coach, The Little Old Lady

Synthesis

Design another clever plan for our friends to avoid complications next Thanksgiving. Create another disguise for our Turkey friends.

Evaluation

Who is your favorite family member? Why? Which page of illustrations is your favorite? Why?

From your feathered friends at WISHBONE FARM...

RUNT'S "SAVE THE TURKEYS" UN-STUFFING

1 package corn muffin mix, prepared the night before

1 cup vegetable stock 1 medium onion, diced

1 large carrot, peeled and diced 1 apple, peeled & diced

2 stalks celery, scrubbed and diced 1/2 cup margarine

8 pieces of stale or toasted bread 1/3 cup dried cranberries, chopped

Poultry seasoning, salt & pepper to taste

Prepare corn muffin mix according to package directions and bake in an 8x8 pan. Sauté onions, celery, carrots in butter until tender; add apples and cranberries and sauté for two more minutes over medium heat. Crumble cornbread into coarse crumbs; shred or chop bread into small pieces. Add crumbs and bread to vegetable mix and stir to mix. Add broth gradually to moisten — just enough to make the stuffing clump up. Place scoops of stuffing into lined muffin cups and baked at 350 degrees until tops are toasted. Your turkeys will gobble-gobble it up!

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