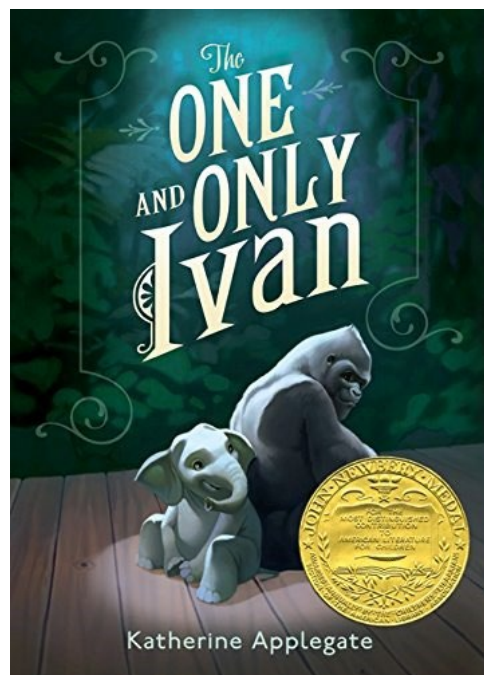


Family Fun Pack

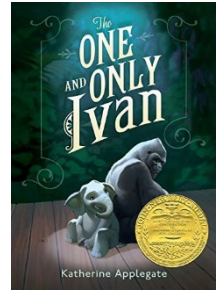


The One and Only Ivan
by Katherine Applegate



Read Aloud Tips For Families

The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate



- ✓ **Make reading time a priority** – Sit down as a family and decide on a daily reading time, and then consider it an appointment that needs to be kept. Some families might find that right before bed is the best time, but early risers might enjoy reading at breakfast. For younger listeners, bath time can be great! Build it into your daily routine and soon you will find that everyone is ready and waiting to hear what comes next in the story.
- ✓ **Show emotion that matches the story** – All of the books from **Read to Them** capture a range of emotions over the course of the story. When reading aloud, mirroring the emotions felt by the characters will make the story more meaningful to your listener.
- ✓ **Vary your rhythm** – Have fun with the language in your book. During suspenseful sections, *slow down* and let the suspense build. During a particularly meaningful moment, *pause* and let the impact settle. During emotion-packed scenes, drop your voice to a *whisper*. When you are reading aloud, you are performing the story. Authors don't want their stories performed in monotone!
- ✓ **Don't be afraid to be silly** – Accents, funny voices, and sound effects are all great tools to use to make reading aloud more engaging. Character-specific voices or mannerisms also help listeners follow the dialogue. It might be a challenge, but it's worth the effort to make your story come alive.
- ✓ **Stay engaged with your listener throughout your reading time** – Stop from time to time to explain an unfamiliar vocabulary word, discuss an important point, or ask your child to make a prediction. You don't want to derail the story too much, but you do want to make reading together interactive.
- ✓ **Expect some fidgeting** – Listening during reading time does not have to be a stationary activity. Some listeners will sit still as stones with eyes and ears fixed on you, and that's great. But other listeners stay more engaged with something in their hands like a small toy, some crayons, or a stuffed animal. Some children might listen better if allowed to walk around the room, or even bounce on the bed a bit. Work together to find the way that works best for your child.

B

Use the [Connection Guide](#) to contact the author and tell her you're reading *The One and Only Ivan!*

Discuss your favorite scene.

Create a scrapbook page profile of one of the characters from the book.

Hot Seat!
Pretend to be a character from the book and let someone interview you.

Build a reading fort together!
bit.ly/readfort

I

Make a glossary of funny words your family uses

Design a new cover for the book.

Get your whole family to read together in your pajamas!

Pick three animals you would like to live with.

Find a picture book about gorillas at your library or independent book store.

N

Write a poem about your domain. Try a haiku, acrostic, or limerick!

Get out of your house and read a chapter out "in the wild" together!



Design a billboard for your own animal menagerie.

Get library cards for the whole family.

G

Draw a carousel horse.

Find a quote in the book that's worth sharing. Put it on a banner, poster, or t-shirt!

Play charades!
Reenact a scene from the book without using words.

Try out one of the activities in the [Family Fun Packet](#).

Write a book review of *The One and Only Ivan* for your teacher or school librarian.

O

Make bookmarks together!

Design a new domain for Ivan.

Write a letter to one of the characters in the book.

Make a list of new words you discover while reading together and learn their definitions.

Share a picture of your family reading with [@readtothem](#).

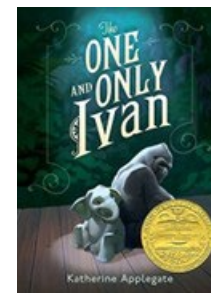




Family Fun Cards

Pages 1-84

The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate



What do you know?

Ivan says, “Gorillas are patient as...*what*”?
What does Ivan throw at humans?
Mack refers to Ivan as what famous artist?

What do you think?

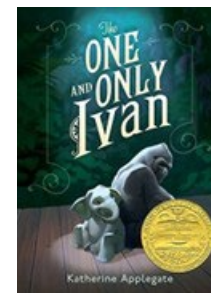
Stella tells Ivan, “*Memories are precious. They help tell us who we are.*” (p. 53) What are some of your earliest memories? What special people or special times can you remember? Are there special people you wish you could remember, but those memories have faded?

What can you do?

Artist Walk

“I saw shapes in clouds, and sculptures in the tumbled stones at the bottom of a stream.” (p. 19)

Some of Ivan’s earliest memories are of being a young artist, seeing his world through artist eyes. What a wonderful idea! Head outside for an Artist Walk. If it is a cloudy day, look for shapes in the clouds. If it is sunny, look for pictures in the shadows. If you live close to a stream, look for rock sculptures. If you live in a city, look for patterns in the sidewalk. Try to see your own world through artist eyes. You can bring along a clipboard, paper, crayons or colored pencils and capture what your artist eyes see.



Family Fun Cards

Pages 85-181

The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate

What do you know?

Who says, “Humans can surprise you sometimes”?

What does Ivan promise Stella?

Ivan is making pieces of a giant...*what?*

What do you think?

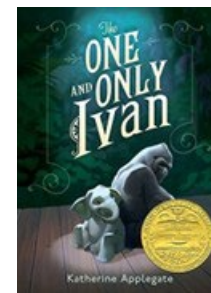
“To a human, Mud might not sound like much. But to me, it was everything.” (p. 125) In Africa, Ivan’s name was *Mud* because he used mud to make art. His sister’s name was *Tag* because she loved to play tag. Do you know the story behind your name? If you could name yourself, what would you choose and why?

What can you do?

Bedtime Stories for Restless Elephants

“I can’t sleep. Do you know any stories the way Aunt Stella did?” (pp. 121-122)

Sweet Ruby is having trouble sleeping. She misses Stella and her family. Bedtime stories are the perfect antidote to sleeplessness. Look through your home library or head to your public library to put together a collection of bedtime stories to enjoy when you finish reading *The One and Only Ivan*. You can designate a spot in your home to keep bedtime stories – a basket, box, or tote bag. You can include a special blanket for wrapping up with and a special stuffed animal for cuddling. See the *Next Book Connections* page at the end of this packet for some suggestions.



Family Fun Cards

Pages 182-300

The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate

What do you know?

What word does Ivan want to spell for the billboard?

What does Ivan leave with Bob?

When Ivan sees Ruby on the TV with other elephants, what does he see in the little elephant's eyes?

What do you think?

"Is there anything sweeter than the touch of another as she pulls a dead bug from your fur?" (p. 287) OK, so maybe that isn't your preferred sign of affection. What is? What do you do to show others you care about them? What do you like for others to do for you?

What can you do?

Art with a Purpose

"Elephants are People, Too!!" (p. 232)

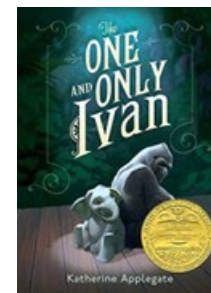
Ivan makes the billboard to call attention to the plight of the animals at the Exit 8 Big Top Mall, and it works. Soon, protestors arrive at the mall with signs, demanding better treatment for Ruby. Artists, like Ivan, have long used art to draw attention to injustice. For example, Picasso painted *Guernica* to decry humans and animals hurt by violence.

What issue is important to you? How would you depict your feelings in art? A mural like Ivan and Picasso? Protest signs like the protestors? Songs like Woody Guthrie? Poems like Amanda Gorman? Photos like Dorthea Lange?



Family Fun Cards Answer Key

The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate



Pages 1-84

Ivan says, “Gorillas are patient as...*what*”?

Patient as stones

What does Ivan throw at humans?

Me-balls

Mack refers to Ivan as what famous artist?

Picasso

Pages 85-181

Who says, “Humans can surprise you sometimes”?

Stella

What does Ivan promise Stella?

To give Ruby a better life

Ivan is making pieces of a giant...*what*?

A giant puzzle

Pages 182-300

What word does Ivan want to spell?

H-O-M-E

What does Ivan leave with Bob?

Not-Tag

When Ivan sees Ruby on the TV with other elephants, what does he see in the little elephant’s eyes?

Joy



Connection Guide

The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate



Connect with Read to Them

Hashtags: [#ReadtoThem](#), [#1School1Book](#), [#1District1Book](#)

Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and Pinterest: [@readtothem](#)

Email: programs@readtothem.org

Website: <https://www.readtothem.org/>

Connect with author Katherine Applegate

Are you enjoying reading about Ivan and his friends at the Exit 8 Big Top Mall? Tell the author!

Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram: [@kaaauthor](#)

Website: www.katherineapplegate.com

Connect with the publisher, HarperCollins

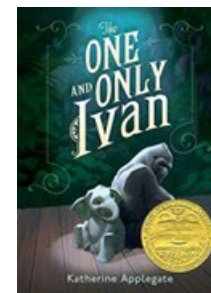
Facebook, Twitter, and Pinterest: [@HarperCollins](#)

Instagram: [@HarperCollinsch](#)

Website: www.harpercollins.com



The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate



Next Book Connections

If you loved *Ivan*, here are some other books your family might enjoy reading together...

Other books written by Katherine Applegate:

- *Crenshaw*
- *Endling: The Last*
- *Home of the Brave*
- *The Invasion*
- *The One and Only Bob* (sequel to *Ivan*)
- *Search for Senna*
- *Wishtree*

Picture books with similar themes:

- *Gary and Ray* – Sarah Adams
- *The Elephant from Baghdad* – Mary Tavenor Holmes
- *The True Adventures of Esther the Wonder Pig* – Steve Jenkins
- *The Cat Man of Aleppo* – Irene Latham
- *Zen Shorts* – Jon J. Muth
- *The Circus Ship* – Chris Van Dusen
- *Won Ton: A Cat Tale Told in Haiku* – Lee Wardlaw

Novels with similar themes:

- *The True Blue Scouts of Sugar Man Swamp* – Kathi Appelt
- *A Wolf Called Wander* – Rosanne Parry
- *The Wild Robot* – Peter Brown
- *A Nest for Celeste* – Henry Cole
- *The Tiger Rising* – Kate DiCamillo
- *Diamond Willow* – Helen Frost
- *King of the Wind* – Marguerite Henry
- *The Epic Fail of Arturo Zemora* – Pablo Cartaya
- *Take Back the Block* – Chrystal D. Giles
- *Inside Out & Back Again* – Thanhha Lai
- *The Simple Art of Flying* – Cory Leonardo
- *Shiloh* – Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
- *A Tale Magnolious* – Suzanne Nelson
- *Pax* – Sara Pennypacker
- *The Incredibly Dead Pets of Rex Dexter* – Aaron Reynolds
- *The Elephant in the Room* – Holly Goldberg Sloan
- *The Murderer's Ape* – Jakob Wegelius