

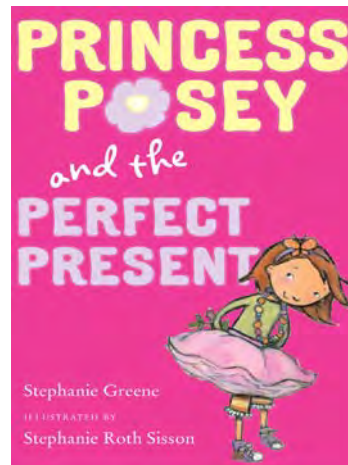
STEPHANIE GREENE

children's
book
author

A Teacher's Activity Guide for
*Princess Posey
and the Perfect Present*

Written by Stephanie Greene

Illustrated by Stephanie Roth Sisson



Published by G. P. Putnam's Sons

Teacher's Guide written by Debbie Gonzales

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Discussion Questions

1. *But Posey couldn't help it. When she saw her very own teacher standing outside their door, she started to skip (2).*
 - a. How is Posey feeling? Excited? Angry? Sad? Happy?
 - b. Have you ever been filled with so much joy that you could not stay still?
 - c. What made Posey so happy?
 - d. How does Posey feel about going to school? Her teacher? Ava? Nikki?
 - e. What makes you feel happy?
 - f. How does a very happy feeling feel inside?

2. *Their class was called "Miss Lee's Learners." Learning was very important work (3).*
 - a. Who are Miss Lee's Learners?
 - b. What sorts of things are they learning to do in school?
 - c. Are there lessons to learn that do not have to do with reading, writing, or drawing?
 - d. Can a person learn friendship lessons?
 - e. What things do good friends do with each other?
 - f. Do friends make mistakes sometimes? If so, what kinds of mistakes?
 - g. Can the mistakes be fixed?
 - h. Is learning how to fix friendship mistakes important work?

3. *"It's my turn to bring in birthday cupcakes," Miss Lee said (7).*
 - a. After Miss Lee announced her birthday celebration the "room buzzed with excitement. Why?
 - b. What do you think the students were most excited about – the chance to eat a cupcake or celebrating Miss Lee's birthday?
 - c. How do the students feel about Miss Lee?
 - d. How do Ava and Nikki feel about her? How do you know this?
 - e. How does Posey feel about her teacher, Miss Lee?
 - f. What do you think about Miss Lee? Do you like her? Why or why not?

4. *"I bet no one gives Miss Lee such a special present," she said. "She'll be amazed, won't she, Mom? (10)"*
 - a. Why is Posey's present so special? What makes Posey's gift so amazing?
 - b. Could it be that the roses were grown at home with Posey's help?
 - c. Could it be that Posey chose blooms that were especially beautiful?
 - d. Could it be that Posey carefully wrapped the roses with wet paper towels and tin foil?
 - e. Could it be that Posey likes Miss Lee so much that she wants to please her teacher?
 - f. Could it be that Posey is giving Miss Lee a little bit of herself in hopes that Miss Lee might like Posey best of all of her classmates?

5. *Nikki's flowers were so beautiful! Posey couldn't give five little roses that were wrapped in soggy paper to Miss Lee now. Yesterday they looked so beautiful. Today they looked so small (12).*
- Why is Posey upset about Nikki's gift to Miss Lee?
 - Aren't Nikki and Posey best friends? Then why would Nikki's flowers from the florist make Posey feel bad?
 - Why is Posey's gift no longer amazing?
 - Since Nikki brought the fancy flowers from the florist, does Miss Lee like Nikki better than Posey?
 - Is it always important to always give the biggest and best present?
 - Can thoughtful homemade presents be special, too?
 - Do you think that the line "Yesterday they looked so beautiful. Today they looked small" describes how Posey feels? That yesterday she was excited to give Miss Lee her special, amazing gift, But then, after she saw the fanciness of Nikki's, Posey felt small?
 - Have you ever felt this way before? Explain your feelings.
6. *"I don't like you anymore, Nikki," Posey said with her trembly mouth. "You're not my friend" (13).*
- Do you think that Posey really doesn't like Nikki anymore? Are they truly no longer friends?
 - Why do you think Posey would say such a mean thing to Nikki?
 - What does the line, "Being mean made her feel a little better," say about Posey choice not to be Nikki's friend?
 - Could it be that, since Posey feels sad and very disappointed about her gift to Miss Lee and that Nikki's gift was so beautiful, Posey wants Nikki to feel as badly as she does?
 - How do you think Nikki felt when Posey was mean to her?
 - Does it feel good to be mean on purpose?
 - How does it feel if someone is mean to you?
 - Why do you think Posey's mouth was 'trembly' when she told Nikki that they were no longer friends?
 - Do you think Posey really meant what she said?
 - Have you ever been angry and said something you really didn't intend to say? What did you do to make things right?
 - Did you learn a lesson about friendship after you made things right with your friend?
7. *An after-birthday present! That was it! Miss Lee probably never got an after-birthday present before" (17).*
- Do you think Posey's idea is a good one?
 - Would you like to get an after-birthday present?
 - After Princess Posey decided to give Miss Lee an after-birthday present she saw a ladybug crawl inside the petals of a tiny rosebud. Earlier in the story, Gramps told Posey that finding a ladybug means good luck. Do you think the ladybug that Posey found was a sign of good luck?
 - What is 'good luck'?
 - Do you think Miss Lee will like the after-birthday present?
 - Do you think that she and Nikki will become friends again?

8. "Oh, my." Miss Lee sounded amazed. "I think it might be the only lucky, after-birthday rose in the world, don't you" (19)?
- How did Posey feel about Miss Lee's reaction to the after-birthday present?
 - How did Miss Lee's response make Posey feel?
 - After giving the rose to Miss Lee Posey apologized to Nikki for being mean by saying, "I'm sorry. I was being silly." Is this a good thing to do when someone hurts their friend's feeling?
 - What does it mean to 'apologize' to someone?
 - Have you ever apologized to someone for a mistake you made?
 - Do you think that Posey was truly sorry for hurting Nikki's feelings? Why or why not?
 - How did Nikki respond to Posey's apology?
 - Did the ladybug bring Posey good luck?
 - Or, did the good choices Posey eventually made bring her good luck?
 - What lessons did Posey learn?
 - About gift giving? About treating friends with kindness?
 - Did you learn any lessons? If so, which ones?

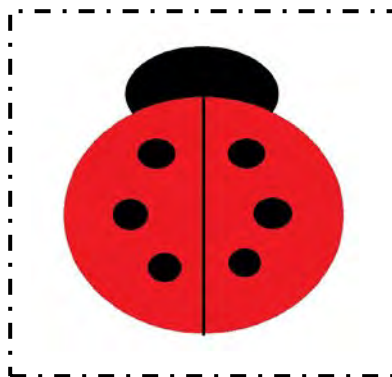
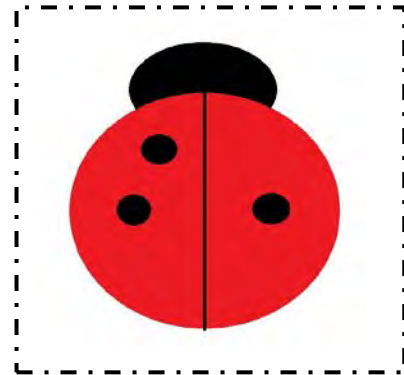
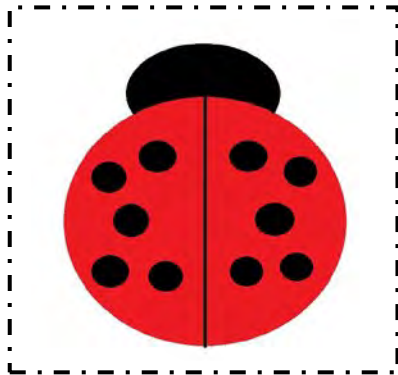
Ladybug Spot Counting

Supplies needed:

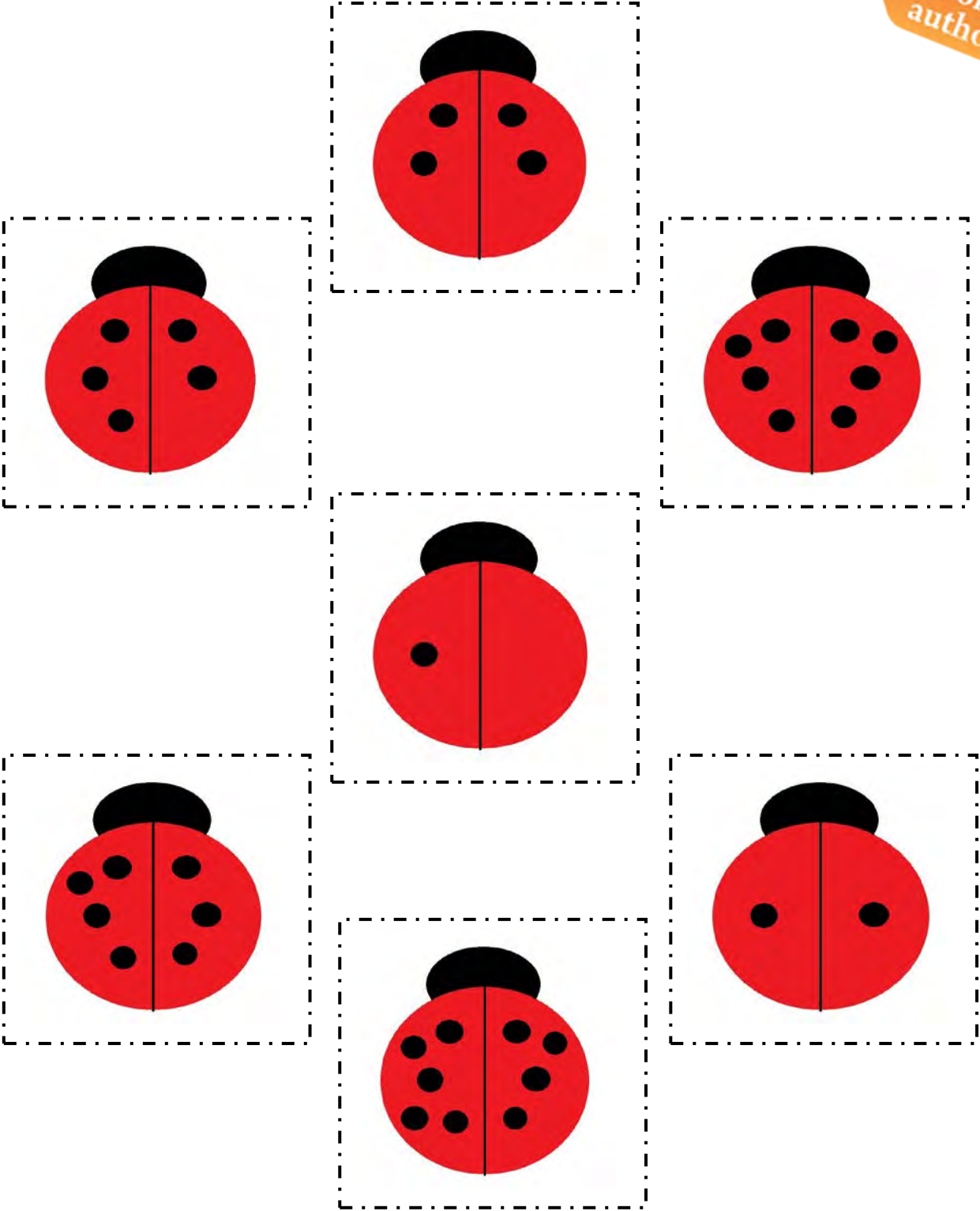
- Scissors
- Glue
- Print out pages 5 and 8 on copy paper
-

Procedure:

1. Cut out each ladybug by trimming along the dotted line framing them.
2. Count the spots on each the ladybug's back.
3. Match the proper numeral with the ladybug with the corresponding number of spots.
4. Glue the ladybug in the square beside the correct number.



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1

2

3

5

6



6

7

8

9

10

Princess Posey Word Wall Poetry

Princess Posey Poetry is easy and fun to write. Here's how:

- Review the words on the word wall below.
- Fill in the blanks in the poetry frame template on page 10 using words found on the word wall.

Princess Posey's Word Wall

babyish

funny

crocodile

alligator

school

classroom

happy

skipping

running

walking

friends

Ava

Nikki

Miss Lee

important

drawing

amazing

silly

cubby

backpack

writing

exciting

counting

counting

pink

tutu

wand



School

_____ school

_____, _____ school

_____, _____, _____ school

Friends

_____ friends

_____, _____ friends

_____, _____, _____ friends

Posey

_____ Posey

_____, _____ Posey

_____, _____, _____ Posey

Story Sequencing

- Cut out the sentence strips below.
- Read them and arrange them in the story's correct sequence of events.
- On the template provided on page 12, glue or tape the sentence strips in the proper story sequence.
- In the box provided, draw a picture of the scene described in the sentence strip.
- Answers to sequencing can be found on Page 17.

Posey gives Miss Lee an After-Birthday present of a special rose with a lady bug sleeping in it.

Nikki's gift of flowers wrapped in green paper and glittery ribbon is nicer than Posey's flowers wrapped in wet paper towels and tin foil.

Miss Lee announces to the class that she will bring cupcakes to school to celebrate her birthday.

Ava and Nikki pretend that they are mothers and Posey pretends to be a baby with a wet diaper.

Posey skipped over to Ava and Nikki to show them her new kitty eraser. Posey promises to share it with them. The three friends hug.

Story Sequence Sentence strip

Draw a picture

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	

Princess Posey and the Perfect Present Bingo

Materials:

- Game board printed on card stock (pg. 15)
- Nine Ladybug Bingo game pieces (pg. 16)
- Nine word labels (pg. 16)
- Scissors

Preparation:

- Prepare game board by printing page 14 on cardstock.
- Print and cut out the nine Ladybug Bingo game pieces.
- Print and cut out the nine word labels printed below.
- Conceal the words by folding the paper strips in half.
- Place folded strips in a small box or basket.

Procedure:

- Remove a folded strip from box or basket.
- Encourage the child to read the word printed on the strip.
- On the game board, find the picture of the object written on the folded strip.
- Cover the picture with a ladybug game piece.
- When all of the pictures have been covered by ladybug game pieces, remove them and begin again!



cupcake

kitty eraser

rose

jacket

back pack

lady bug

magic wand

tutu

cookie

Princess Posey and the Perfect Present

bingo



Acknowledgements



Author **Stephanie Greene** grew up ... went to college ... worked as a newspaper reporter and an advertising copywriter ... got married ... lived and worked in South Africa and Hong Kong ... and then, her son, Oliver, was born. That's when she became a children's book author.

Stephanie says that she gets ideas for her books by spying on people. "If I didn't, where would I get my material? So if you and I ever have the pleasure of meeting, you might want to mind your p's & q's, as my mother used to say ... chances are, I'm keeping my eye out for material for a new book.

Princess Posey and the Perfect Present is the second book in a delightful new series for the emerging reader.

Stephanie Roth's acclaimed work appears in dozens of books and magazines for children. Her book work ranges from picture books to chapter books. Whatever the project, her work is imbued with a gentleness, humor and emotion.

For Stephanie, creating pictures started as a way to have fun, make stories more satisfying and keep busy and eventually turned into a career.

Steph lives on California's Central Coast where she is an illustrator at large. In her spare time, she likes to garden, surf and tries in vain to train her pet parakeets to say clever things. For more information about illustrator Stephanie Roth Sisson access www.stephanitely.com.



Debbie Gonzales has worked as a teacher, a school administrator, and educational consultant, an art director and a creative writing workshop instructor. Deb earned her MFA in Writing for Children and Young Adults from the Vermont College of Fine Arts. She has published a number of early-readers with New Zealand's Giltedge Publishing and serves as the Regional Advisor for the Austin SCBWI Chapter. Debbie's blog, *Simple Saturday*, features simply sensational and sometimes quite silly weekly art, science, math, and reading activities suitable for all ages. Contact Debbie at www.debbiegonzales.com.

Answers to Story Sequencing on page 12.

1. Posey skipped over to Ava and Nikki to show them her new kitty eraser. Posey promises to share it with them. The three friends hug.
2. Miss Lee announces to the class that she will bring cupcakes to school to celebrate her birthday.
3. Nikki's gift of flowers wrapped in green paper and glittery ribbon is nicer than Posey's flowers wrapped in wet paper towels and tin foil.
4. Posey gives Miss Lee an After-Birthday present of a special rose with a lady bug sleeping in it.
5. Ava and Nikki pretend that they are mothers and Posey pretends to be a baby with a wet diaper.