

## **Guiding Questions – P Is for Please: A Bestiary of Manners (2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> Grade)**

### **A is for asking permission.**

After eating ants with her Aunt Adele, Annie Anteater politely asks if she may be excused.

About the text: When was the last time you asked permission before doing something?

About the illustrations: What do you think Annie Anteater is planning to do after she's been excused?

### **B is for brave.**

Brave Bella Beaver boldly defends baby Benjamin from bullying Boris.

About the text: Tell about a time you did something brave.

About the illustrations: Why do you think the illustrator made Boris a bull?

### **C is for considerate.**

Carl Cougar considerately covers his cough with the crook of his elbow to keep his germs from covering cookies, creampuffs, and other creatures.

About the text: Why do you think Carl Cougar covers his cough with the crook of his elbow instead of this paw?

About the illustrations: Which treat would you most like to eat?

### **D is for dependable.**

If Damien Dingo says he's going to do the dishes or dump the trash Daddy Dingo can count on him to do it.

About the text: How do you help out around the house/classroom?

About the illustrations: What is going to happen if Damien Dingo isn't careful?

### **E is for eating politely.**

Eveline Elephant eats eagerly but she never emits even an eek until her mouth is empty.

About the text: "Emits" is a pretty grown-up word, what do you think it means? What does an "eek" sound like?

About the illustrations: What are the elephants afraid of?

### **F is for formal.**

When feasting on frog at a fancy French restaurant Frederick Fox flaunts his finest fox manners.

About the text: Have you ever been to a fancy restaurant? How is eating in a restaurant different than eating at home?

About the illustrations: What do you like best about this illustration?

### **G is for greetings.**

Georgina Giraffe graciously greets her gorgeous guests.

About the text: How do you greet your friends/guests?

About the illustrations: What animals would you have drawn to illustrate this story-sentence?

### **H is for helping.**

Henry Hippopotamus happily helps his father heave the heaping hamper.

About the text: Tell about a time you helped someone. What did you do? How did helping them make you feel?

About the illustrations: What's in the hamper that's not supposed to be there?

### **I is for, "I'm sorry".**

"I'm sorry", says Isabella Ibis when she inadvertently injures itty bitty Iggy Iguana.

About the text: Tell about a time you told someone that you were sorry? What happened? How did you feel after you said you were sorry?

About the illustrations: Where do you think Iggy Iguana is going to land?

### **J is for "Join us!"**

"Join us!", shrieks jolly Jeanie Jackrabbit when she sees Joshua Jackal joylessly juggling.

About the text: Tell about a time you asked someone to join you in a

game.

About the illustrations: How can you tell Joshua Jackal isn't having a good time juggling?

### **K is for kindness.**

When Katie Kangaroo can't think of something kind to say she doesn't say anything at all.

About the text: What do you think Katie Kangaroo is keeping to herself?

About the illustrations: What do you think is the funniest part of this picture?

### **L is for listening.**

Luther Lemur almost always listens to Uncle Larry's lengthy lunchtime lectures without interrupting.

About the text: When is it okay to interrupt someone?

About the illustrations: Why do you think Luther Lemur isn't listening to uncle Larry's lecture?

### **M is for manners.**

Mira Mongoose knows that manners are mighty. Good manners make Mamma Mongoose proud and even work their magic on mean Mr. Muskrat.

About the text: Why do you think good manners are important?

About the illustrations: How can you tell that Mira Mongoose's good manners have worked their magic on mean Mr. Muskrat?

### **N is for, "No, thank you".**

"No, thank you", says Nanda Nanny Goat when her nice neighbor, Nora the Naked Mole Rat, serves fried newt and nettle noodles.

About the text: What foods might make you say, "no thank you"?

About the illustrations: How do you know the animals are having a party?

### **O is for open-minded.**

Owen Octopus is optimistically open-minded even when it comes to onions, oysters, and opera.

About the text: Tell about a time you thought you wouldn't like something but tried it anyway.

About the illustrations: How many different animals can you see in this picture?

**P is for, "please".**

Penelope Platypus politely pronounces, "please" before petting Patrick Pig's prize-winning pet porcupine.

About the text: When do you say, "please"?

About the illustrations: How do you think it would feel to pet a porcupine?

**Q is for quiet.**

Quintana Quokka knows that there are quite a few locations where, without question, one must be quiet such as libraries, lecture halls, and anywhere quokkas gather to listen to quartets.

About the text: Name two places where it's important to be quiet.

About the illustrations: What instruments do you see in this illustration?

**R is for respect.**

Raymond Rhinoceros respectfully treats the other animals the way he would like to be treated, even rumped Rodney Rat.

About the text: How do you want other people to treat you?

About the illustrations: How does the illustrator show that Rodney Rat feels nervous?

**S is for sharing.**

Sofia Snake selflessly shares her special Sunday soda with her seven serpent sisters.

About the text: Tell about a time you shared a snack or something else with a friend/classmate/sibling.

About the illustrations: Which snake do you think is Sophia?

### **T is for, “thank you”.**

“Thank you!”, says Mrs. Tiger when tiny Timmy Tiger treats her to his tantalizing tarts.

About the text: When should you say, “thank you”?

About the illustrations: What kind of tarts is Timmy Tiger sharing?

### **U is for using utensils.**

Umberto Uakari knows that whether he’s eating udon, unagi, or Uncle Upton’s famous upside-down cake, utensils are usually useful.

About the text: Some foods are meant to be eaten with utensils but others are best eaten with your fingers. Can you name three finger foods? Umberto Uakari is using a fork. Can you name two other utensils?

About the illustrations: How does the illustrator show that Uncle Upton’s famous upside-down cake is special?

### **V is for volunteering.**

Vladimir Vole valiantly volunteers to vacuum Mrs. Vronsky’s Victorian vole hole.

About the text: Have you ever volunteered to help someone with a chore they couldn’t or didn’t want to do alone? What chore did you help with? How did volunteering to help make you feel?

About the illustrations: What do you think Vladimir Vole will find when he enters Mrs. Vronsky’s vole hole?

### **W is for waiting your turn.**

Whether it’s for watermelon, Wiener schnitzel, or Wild Willie Weasel’s Waterslide, Wendell Wombat willingly waits his turn.

About the text: Tell about a time you had to wait and wait and wait. Why is it important to wait for your turn?

About the illustrations: What is Wendell Wombat waiting in line for?

### **X is for, “Excuse me!”**

“Excuse me!”, whispers Xavier Xolo when he accidentally bumps into an extra large xenopus.

About the text: It's nice to say, "excuse me", when you bump into someone. When else should you say excuse me?

About the illustrations: What happened when Xavier Xolo bumped into the extra large xenopus?

### **Y is for, "you're welcome".**

"Thank you", says Yuri Yak. "You're welcome", yips Yolanda Yorkie, "I thought you might be yearning for a new yellow yo-yo."

About the text: What do you think "yearning" means?

About the illustrations: How do you think Yolanda Yorkie knew that Yuri Yak wanted a new yo-yo?

### **Z is for zoo.**

Zoelinda Zorilla lives in a zoo. She knows how to mind her manners. How about you?

About the text: Do you know how to mind your manners?

About the illustrations: Sometimes people call a crowded place a "zoo". What location did the illustrator choose for Zolinda Zorilla? What color is Zolinda Zorilla's dress?