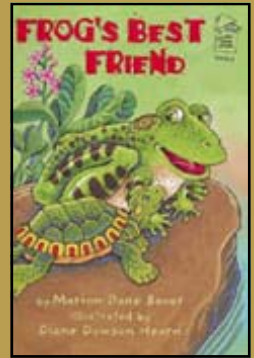


# Frog's Best Friend

Marion Dane Bauer, illus by Diane Dawson Hearn ♦ Classroom Guide



Holiday House Reader  
Level 2  
ISBN 0-8234-1501-5

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## Pre-Reading Questions

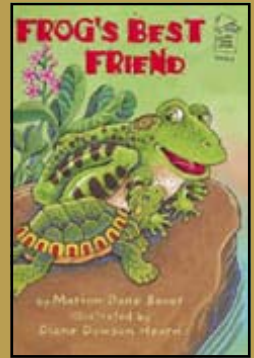
1. Have you ever seen a frog up close? Where did you see it? What did it look like? What sounds did it make?
2. How about a turtle? Have you ever held a turtle in your hands? What is the shell like? Can you describe the colors?
3. Do you have a friend? Do you have a best friend? More than one?
4. What happens when your friend spends more time with another friend than with you? How does that make you feel?
5. Not all the students may be familiar with pond life or life near a pond. It may be helpful to prepare the included Roundtable Alphabet (*Classroom Strategies for Interactive Learning*, Doug Buehl, IRA) to get them in the mind-frame. We have included one as a sample and a blank for you to use. Don't be disappointed if you can't come up with words for X, Y, and Z.
6. Activity: We have prepared a simple Word Search puzzle using names and words from the book. You'll find a reproducible and a solution key included with this Guide.

## While Reading the Book

1. [After reading page 12] Frog has never heard of winter. He thinks the four seasons include Nap Time. Why is that?
2. [After reading page 14] On page 6, Frog greets everyone, "Hello, world!" he said. "I'm back!" On this page, Turtle greets everyone, "Hello, world," she said. "I'm so glad you're still here." What does the difference in the way they greet the world say about Frog and Turtle?
3. [On page 23] When Frog realizes that Turtle has many "dear" friends, "His green turned greener." Why would that be?
4. [On page 26] Baby bear thinks Turtle is a pretty rock. Why would he think that?
5. [On page 31] Frog is much smaller than Baby Bear. Why would Frog be so brave to shout, "You leave Turtle alone!"

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## After Reading the Book

1. Why do you think Frog wants Turtle to be his *only* friend?
2. When Frog asks Turtle if Frog is Turtle's best friend, Turtle says "you are my very dear friend." Why does Turtle answer Frog this way?
3. What kind of a friend *is* Frog? Make a list of Good and Bad Things About Frog as a Friend.
4. Turtle pulls his arms, legs, and head inside his shell. Why do turtles do this?
5. Is Baby Bear mean when he sits on Turtle and puts her in his mouth?
6. Tell me about the last time you helped a friend. What did you do?

## About Marion Dane Bauer

Marion Dane Bauer writes books for children and teens, from picture books to long novels. Among her newest books are *The Blue Ghost* and *A Bear Named Trouble*, as well as board books celebrating the holidays. Her beginning readers feature nature themes, among them animals and weather and geography. *On My Honor*, a book about making decisions and doing what you believe is right, won a Newbery Honor Award from the American Library Association. Ms. Bauer has written more than 50 books and teaches writing in the MFA program at Vermont College. She lives in Minnesota, where she is close to nature, animals, her children, and her grandchildren.

## Possible Companion Books

*Bear's Hiccups*, Marion Dane Bauer, Holiday House, 2002

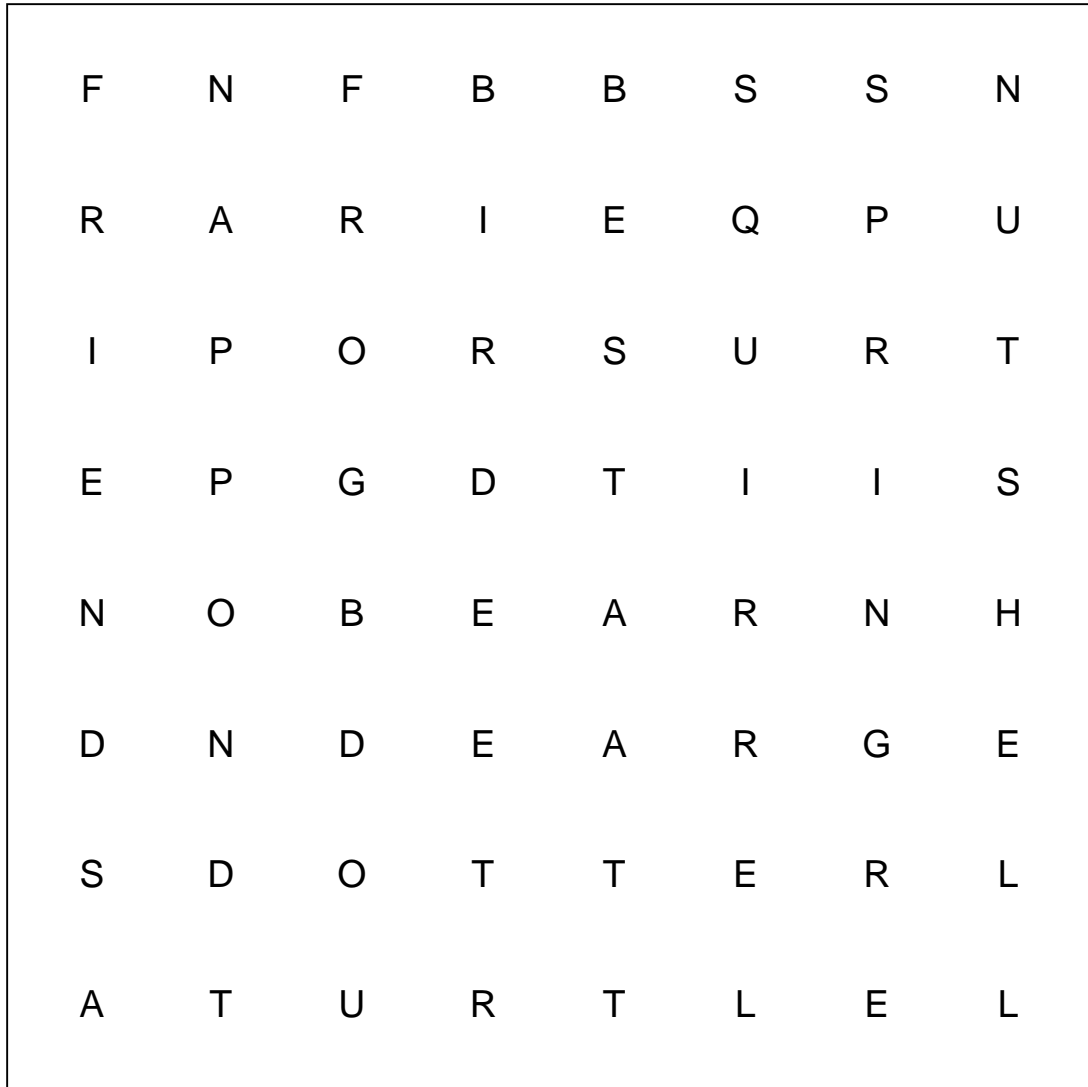
*Charlotte's Web*, E.B. White, HarperCollins, 1952

*Frog and Toad are Friends*, Arnold Lobel, HarperCollins, 1970

*My Friend Rabbit*, Eric Rohmann, Roaring Brook Press, 2002

*Song of the Water Boatman*, Joyce Sidman, Houghton Mifflin, 2005

## Wordsearch: *Frog's Best Friend*



Bear

Nut

Best

Otter

Bird

Pond

Dear

Shell

Friends

Spring

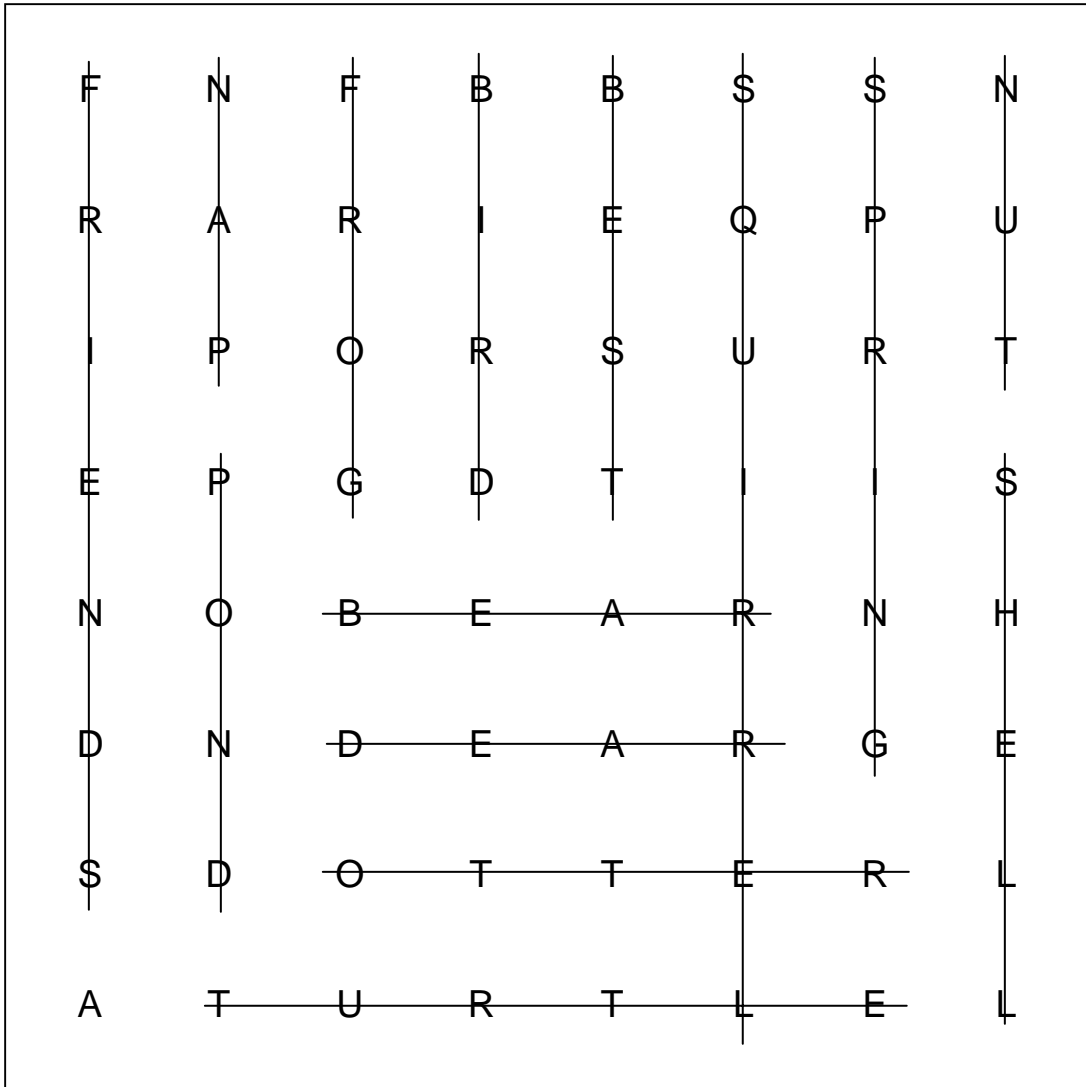
Frog

Squirrel

Nap

Turtle

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