Join us on October 19, 2017, to read Quackers together, and use the following activities to bring the book to life for the students in your classroom. Learn more at readfortherecord.org.

VOCABULARY

While you read, take time to explain words that might be new to children. These explanations can be verbal or something more active, such as gestures, making a sound, pointing to an illustration, or using tone of voice to convey a word's meaning.

Here are some words to talk about while reading and discussing Quackers:

- **Amusing**: makes someone smile or laugh
- **Communicating**: getting and sending messages
- **Flock**: a group of animals, usually birds
- **Options**: choices
- **Overjoyed**: very happy
- **Strange**: unusual or weird

ACTIVITIES

Sing Together

Start your day off with a sing-a-long! (Visit readfortherecord.org for the lyrics.)

**Song: 5 Little Ducks**

- At the beginning of the story, Quackers thinks he’s a duck! Let’s sing a song about what happens when five little ducks go out to play.
- After you sing together, talk about where students think the little ducks go during the song.
  - Why don’t the ducks hear Mother Duck quacking for them to come back?

**Song: The More We Get Together**

- By the end of the story, Quackers is friends with the ducks and the cats. It makes him “completely happy.” Let’s sing a song about being friends with everyone.
- Ask students about their friends.
  - What do you like to do together?
  - What happens when you make a new friend?

Duck, Duck, Cat!

For something more active, play a round of Duck, Duck, GOOSE! This time, change it to the Quackers version by playing Duck, Duck, CAT!

Write or Draw About Quackers

The ducks like to play with Quackers even though he is a cat. Prompt students to create a story by drawing and writing about the adventures Quackers and the ducks could have.

- Invite students to write or draw on their paper with a crayon or marker. Provide help writing if requested and accept children’s scribble writing, if used.
- Continue the fun by writing another story. This time, encourage students to write a story about another animal mix-up. What if there were a bird who thought he was a rabbit? What adventures could a bird have with rabbit friends?
Make your Own Quackers Puppets!

Quackers is a duck AND Quackers is a cat. Now, children can be a duck AND a cat too with these Quackers puppets!

Photocopy this page and make copies for each child in the classroom on thick cardstock. Have the students decide whether they would like to be a cat or a duck, and cut out the animal they prefer (carefully, with the teacher’s help). Then, tape the paper to the top of a popsicle stick, pencil, or other stick.

Use the puppets to help children feel more involved as you read the story, and as you play a round of “Duck, Duck, CAT!” with your class.

For a Friend

Quackers is friends with both ducks and cats. Celebrate students’ diverse friendships by creating friendship necklaces.

You will need: a variety of beads and yarn, long enough to create a necklace.

- Students will work in pairs to create two friendship necklaces.
- Instead of creating a necklace for themselves, students will make a necklace for their partners! They will work together to create a necklace that the other will enjoy.
- Students will ask each other questions like:
  - What colors should I use?
  - Do you want the colors to be in a pattern?
  - What order should the beads go in?
- Encourage students to listen, look at things from one another’s perspective, and understand that someone else might like different things.

READ MORE

- Stock your reading corner with more books about cats and ducks! Check out Kitten’s First Full Moon by Kevin Henkes and Pete the Cat: Five Little Ducks by James Dean.
- Explore more stories about friendship by reading Matthew and Tilly by Rebecca C. Jones and Same, Same but Different by Jenny Sue Kostecki-Shaw.
- Discuss the importance of acceptance and kindness as you read If You Plant a Seed by Kadir Nelson and The Invisible Boy by Trudy Ludwig and Patrice Parton.