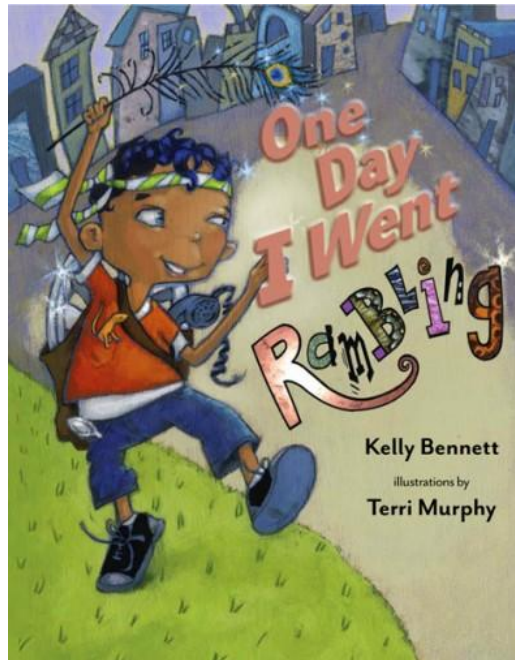


A Companion Craft and Discussion Guide for

One Day I Went Rambling



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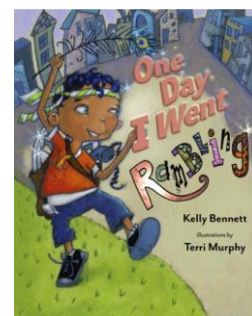
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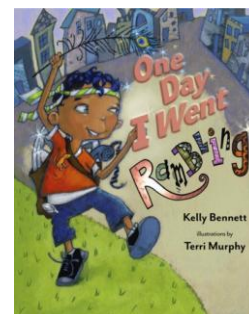
Pre-Reading Discussion Questions

The Front Cover:

1. Describe what you see. Colors? Objects? Buildings?
2. What is the boy on the cover doing?
3. How does the boy on the cover feel? How do you know?
4. What is the boy holding in his hand? Why?
5. What objects does he have stored in his backpack?
6. Where is the story going to take place?
7. Do you know what the word 'rambling' means? If not, can you make a guess?
8. What do you think will happen in this story?
9. What kind of a story do you think this will be? Happy? Sad? Scary? Funny?
10. Are you ready to go rambling through the story? Well then, let's get going!



Post-Reading Discussion Questions



1. On the first page, the boy finds what he thinks is a flyer saucer.
 - a. Did he really find a flying saucer?
 - b. If not a flying saucer, what did he find?
 - c. Can you see how the object he found might look like a flying saucer? How so?

2. On the next page a bigger boy calls the object a hubcap.
 - a. What is this bigger boy's name?
 - b. Look at the boys' expressions.
 - i. Is the big boy teasing? How do you know?
 - ii. How does the younger boy feel?
 - iii. How would you feel in this situation?

3. As the story goes on, Zane continues to name different objects various creative things such as a strand of vine becomes a lasso, a pop top transforms into a pirate's ring, and a slip becomes a covered wagon top.
 - a. Do you see these objects in the same way that Zane does?
 - b. Do his friends see these things the way that Zane does? Why not?
 - c. Do you think that Zane is being creative?
 - i. What does it mean to be "creative?"
 - ii. What does it mean to use ones "imagination?"
 - iii. Do Zane's friends use their imaginations?
 - iv. Do you use your imagination? When? How?

4. Things begin to change for Zane when his friends ask him, "What's up?"
 - a. As Zane busies himself gathering things, what are his friends doing?
 - b. Are they teasing him?
 - c. Are they interested in what he is doing? If so, why?
 - d. Are you interested in what Zane is doing? If so, why?
 - e. Do you think that Zane would be a fun friend to have? Why?
 - f. Would you tease him?
 - g. Would you want to make fun things with him?

5. Zane finds a paper sack and calls it a vest.
 - a. What is Jess' response to Zane's idea?
 - b. Is Jess changing? How so?
 - c. What about Marj and Tran when they find peacock feathers?
 - d. Are they changing, too? How so?

6. Study the picture of Zane leading the kids in a “Rambling Day” parade.
 - a. How do the kids in the parade feel?
 - b. Would you like to be in the parade, too?
 - c. Do you think Lamar is teasing Zane by suggesting that the rusty pot might be a treasure?
 - d. If so, why would Lamar do this?
 - e. Why does Scott whisper to ignore Lamar?
 - f. What does it mean to “ignore” someone?
 - g. Is it sometimes better to ignore someone than to argue?
 - h. Have you ever had to ignore someone?

7. Look at the page where Zane and his friends are finding sparkly objects. Notice that Joan is the one who calls them “priceless jewels.”
 - a. What has happened to Zane’s friends?
 - b. How has he changed them?
 - c. Are they being more creative?
 - d. Are they using their imaginations?
 - e. So you think that they are having more fun because of this?
 - f. Do you like to play pretend?
 - g. The fun never ends when you do, right?

8. Zane tells his friends to, “Gather round...there’s lots of work to do.”
 - a. What kind of work do they need to do?
 - b. Are the kids building something together?
 - c. Are they working together as a team? What does that mean, to be a “team?”
 - d. Do you think it is fun to work and play together with friends in this way?
 - e. Who calls out for Zane and his friends to wait?
 - f. How has Lamar changed?
 - g. What made him change?
 - h. Will Zane let Lamar join in the fun?
 - i. Would you let Lamar join in the fun?
 - j. Do you want to join in the fun?

9. In the end, what have the friends built together?
 - a. How did they build it?
 - b. Did they work alone or together?
 - c. What objects did they use?
 - d. What part of their minds did they use?

10. There is an illustration of two discarded tires on the final page.
 - a. Is there a creative way to see the tire? In what way?
 - b. Use your imagination, what can the tire become?
 - c. How can it be used as a part of the pirate structure the kids have made together?

Now, It's Your Turn to Go Rambling - Let's Make a Homemade Band!

**When Zane used his imagination everyday, ordinary objects were transformed into treasures. Now, it is your turn to use your creative mind to transform regular, standard stuff into symphonic splendor.
And, like Zane did, gather a gang of your friends and create your very own
Go Rambling Homemade Band!!!**

One thing to keep in mind is that musical instruments fall into four basic groups or classifications:

1. Percussion instruments make sound when they are struck, or tapped, with a hand or another object.
2. Woodwinds make music when air is blown into them.
3. Brass instruments are like woodwinds in that air is blown into them, as well. Trumpets are part of the brass instrument classification.
4. Lastly, strings are instruments made with stretched string-like material that are strummed by hand or are stroked with a bow to make sound.

So, here's your Go Rambling Challenge. After getting permission from the adults who are responsible for your care, ramble around the house and find objects with which you can make an instrument. Look closely to see the musical potential in each object you choose. Let your mind wander. Don't be concerned what others might think of you. Use your imagination. Get creative. Have fun.

There is no need to spend any money on this project. It's not particularly necessary to decorate your instruments, either, unless you want to. Simply look closely at everyday, ordinary things to see if, perhaps, the objects might make a joyful noise.

*The following pages are full of ideas to get you started. But don't stop where the guide lets off. Go for it!
Let your rambling imagination soar...*

And, if you're so inclined, the instruments made in this guide can be used as props in the Readers' Theatre production of "One Day I Went Rambling" starring – YOU!

*Next time we went rambling
We took our treasures, too.
"Gather round," I told my friends,
"There's lots of work to do."*

Go Rambling Homemade Band Instrument Number 1:



Go rambling and find:

- A comb
- A piece of tissue

Create:

- Stretch the tissue tightly over the comb's teeth.
- Place tissue on lips and hum. (Watch out. It tickles.)
- Surprise! You have made a simple woodwind – a [comb harmonica!](#)



Go Rambling Homemade Band Instrument Number 2:



Go rambling and find:

- An empty liquid dish detergent bottle
- Scissors

Create:

- With the scissors, cut the base of the bottle off.
- Rest closed lips against the open bottle top and gently blow.
- Surprise! You have made a simple brass (actually plastic) [trumpet!](#)



Go Rambling Homemade Band Instrument Number 3:



Go rambling and find:

- An empty glass bottle

Create:

- Rest your lower lip against the side of the bottle opening.
- Extend your upper lip over the bottle opening and blow, forcing your air to go down into the bottle.
- Surprise! You have made a [simple bottle horn!](#)



Go Rambling Homemade Band Instrument Number 4:



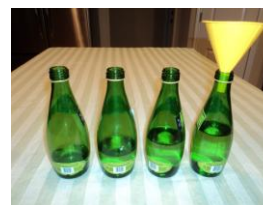
Go rambling and find:

- Several empty glass bottles
- A measuring cup
- Water
- A funnel
- A small spoon

Create:

- Using the funnel and the measuring cup, pour varied levels of water in the bottles.
- Tap the sides of the bottles with the spoon.
- Surprise! You have made a percussion instrument – [the bottle scales!](#)

Question: Which bottle do you think will have the highest pitch – the containing the most water or the one with the least amount?



Go Rambling Homemade Band Instrument Number 5:



Go rambling and find:

- An empty toilet paper roll
- A rubber band
- Waxed paper
- Scissors

Create:

- Cut a small hole on the side of the toilet paper roll.
- Cut a small square of waxed paper, just big enough to cover the roll's opening at the end.
- Secure waxed paper over the roll's end with rubber band.
- Gently blow into the open end.
- Surprise! You have created a simple **toilet paper roll kazoo!**



Go Rambling Homemade Band Instrument Number 6:



Go rambling and find:

- Two paper or Styrofoam plates
- A handful of dried macaroni
- Masking tape

Create:

- Place macaroni on one plate. Cover with the other plate.
- Tape around the edges of both plates, sealing the macaroni between the plates.
- Surprise! You have made a percussion instrument – a **macaroni tambourine!**



Go Rambling Homemade Band Instrument Number 7:



Go rambling and find:

- An empty oatmeal box
- Yarn or string
- Scissors
- 2 pencils

Create:

- Poke small holes on either side of the oatmeal box.
- Measure length of string to fit around your neck with ends of string stopping at waist line.
- Secure ends of string through the holes.
- Slip string over head. Rest oatmeal box on stomach.
- Tap lid of oatmeal box with pencil tips.
- Surprise! You've made a percussion instrument – a [snare drum](#).



Go Rambling Homemade Band Instrument Number 8:



Go rambling and find:

- An empty shoebox
- 4 rubber bands
- Scissors

Create:

- Cut a hole in the lower portion of the box top.
- Trim the ends of the lid, clearing away any fold or lip.
- Stretch rubber bands lengthways over the hole cut in the box top.
- Close box top and strum rubber bands.
- Surprise! You have made a string instrument – a [shoebox guitar](#)!



Acknowledgments

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Simple Saturday

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