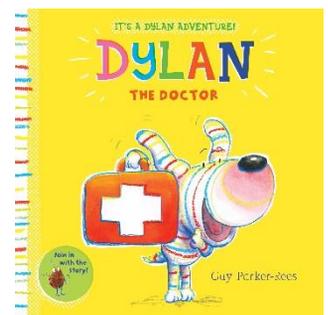




***Dylan the Doctor***  
written and illustrated by  
**Guy Parker-Rees**

1 – Introducing the book

- Show children the front cover of the book. What game do you think Dylan is playing today? Ask children to share their experiences of having to go to the doctor or hospital.
- As you read the story together, encourage children to respond to the comments and questions posed by the little bug. They will also enjoy joining in with the ‘nee-naw’ ambulance sound effects!
- At the end of the story, read the character description of Dylan’s friends from the inside back cover. Make up similar descriptions of children in the class, focusing on areas of strengths and different interests. Can children guess who you are describing? For example, *This person loves riding the bikes outside and always holds the door open for others. This person is really good at taking turns and likes playing spaceships.* Invite children to work in small groups with an adult to make up other, similar descriptions of their friends which they can try out on the rest of the class later.



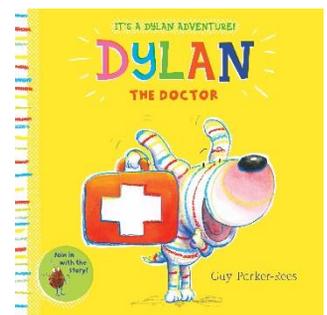


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2 – Operation ouch!

- Set up a role play area in the classroom as a GP's surgery or hospital. Reread the descriptions of what is wrong with Dylan's friends, for example floppy-wobble fever (Jolly Otter) and heads-shoulders-knees-and-toes-itis (Purple Puss). Devise other funny illnesses for toys within the classroom and then send them to the role play area to be seen by the on-call doctor(s).
- Show children the picture of Dylan's medical kit. Have another play doctor's kit to hand, and talk about the names of some of the different items and their purpose/how they are used. For example, stethoscope, blood pressure monitor, thermometer, reflex hammer, syringe, tongue depressor, ophthalmoscope etc. Now play 'Kim's Game', giving children time to look at all the items and then asking them to close their eyes while you remove one item. Can they then guess what is missing?
- Dylan's doctor's kit includes a stinky sock! Play 'Odd-one-out' with pictures of 'kits' for different professions such as firefighter, builder, chef, teacher. Which is the funny item that shouldn't be there?

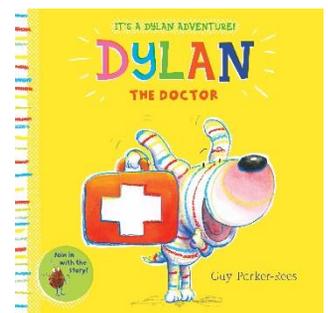




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2 – Operation ouch!

- Invite children to practice measuring. They can use tape measures or rulers to measure a friend's height, and weighing scales to see how heavy they are. They could also create their own medicines by pouring out the correct amounts of different liquids into measuring jugs and combining. You could use fruit juice, or water with food colouring.
- Children could also practice counting out numbers of tablets (smarties or counters) in response to a prescription, and could add/subtract these in response to prompts from an adult, recording the calculations they have done.
- Use 'record cards' for the surgery to help children learn alphabetical order. Encourage children to find their name card and to put it back in the right place.





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3 – Get well soon!

- At the end of the story, what do Dylan's friends do to make a big fuss of him? Discuss examples of things the children like to make them feel special, for example a drink of hot chocolate, or time to watch a favourite cartoon, or an ice cream. What could you do to make a friend feel special?
- Look at the patterns of stripes on Dylan the dog. Give children strips of paper and crayons, and support them to develop their own repeating patterns. Can they explain how their pattern works? Now give them blank outlines of Dylan the dog, and ask them to colour Dylan using their repeating pattern. These can be cut out and stuck on the front of a 'Get Well Soon' card for a friend.

