

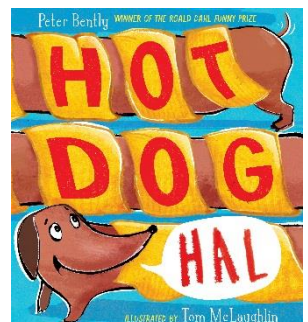


## *Hot Dog Hal*

Written by Peter Bently and  
illustrated by Tom McLaughlin

### 1 – Introducing the book

- Have a look together at the front cover and the illustrations on the first few pages. Why do you think this dog is called Hot Dog Hal?
- Read the first few pages up to ‘it has a nice biscuity chocolate smell’. Ask children if they have a favourite toy or snuggly like Hot Dog Hal, or if they have lots of different toys they like rather than one special one? Invite them to discuss with a partner.
- Read the next two pages where Hal uses his blanket for lots of different purposes. Pass a random object such as a paper plate around the circle. If children can think of something it could be, invite them to stand up and mime what they are thinking of, for example the steering wheel on a car, a hat, a frisbee. Can the rest of the class guess what’s in their mind?
- Read on to the part of the story where the friends are all stuck in the old windmill. Ask children to predict what they will do to get out? Why is Hal sad after they have escaped? What does Buster do to make him feel better?



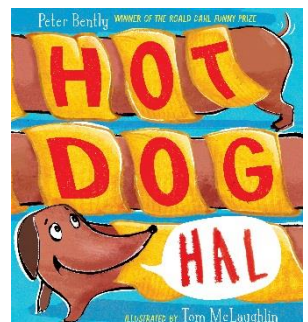


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### 2 – Hot Dog Hals

- Working in small groups, help children to make their own Hot Dog Hals. Cut the feet off a pair of tights and then stuff with scrunched up paper, knotting the end to form his tail. Show them how to cut out felt for ears and stick on googly eyes and a nose. They could also make a long yellow felt cape.
- Read through the story again and notice how different all the dogs are. Agree that everyone in the class is unique, and everyone has special qualities. Carry out a circle time session around the theme of friendship. Have a pot full of lolly sticks – one with each child's name on it. The children should then take turns to pull out a lolly stick and read the name on it (with help if necessary), and say what they think that person's strength is, for example *Emma is really good at football, Shinal looks after me when I'm sad* etc.
- Give each child a lolly stick with the name of a classmate on, and a strip of paper. Ask them to make and decorate a 'friendship bracelet' for that person, just like Buster McNally makes the t-shirt for Hot Dog Hal.





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3 – Co-operation games

- In the story, the friends have to work together in order to get out of the windmill. Play lots of co-operation games in P.E. to encourage them to work as a team. For example split the class into two groups and ask each one to form a circle holding hands. Place a hoop over the arms of two of the children in the circle. The winning team is the one that can pass the hoop around the circle with each child stepping through it, but without unlinking hands. Alternatively, there are a range of 'parachute games' which encourage children to work together.

