

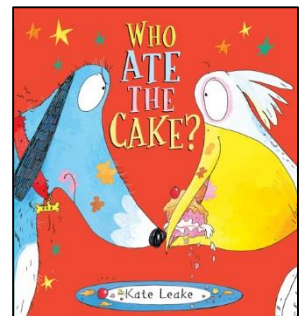


## ***Who Ate the Cake?***

**Written and illustrated by  
Kate Leake**

### 1 – Introducing the book

- Read the first two pages which introduce the characters of Bob and Freddie. Ask the children if they have any pets? Do those pets ever do things that get them into trouble? Share examples. Freddie is also often in trouble, in his case because he likes collecting things. Ask children if they have ever made a collection of anything. Look at the examples of the different things that Freddie has collected.
- Freddie receives a mystery gift from Collectors' Weekly because he has ordered so many things. Look closely at the pictures of the box and the clues in the story such as the 'squawk' coming from inside or the smell of fish, and see if children can guess what might be inside the box. When it is revealed to be a pelican, ask children what they would think of having a pelican as a gift? Would they be happy or a bit worried? How does Freddie feel?
- Play your own mystery box game – have a box with a lid tied up with string just like the one in the story. Cut small holes in the side for children to put their hands inside (without looking). Ask them to put their hands in the box and describe what they can feel inside – a good opportunity to develop lots of vocabulary to do with size and texture. Can they guess what the object is? Open the box to reveal. Repeat with a range of different objects.

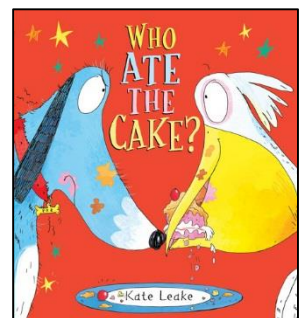




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1 – Introducing the book

- Explore why Bob is worried about the pelican. What is the problem from Bob's point of view? Talk about the experience of being blamed for something that isn't your fault and how that feels.
- At the end of the story, another mystery gift arrives. What problems do children anticipate from having an elephant living in the house?



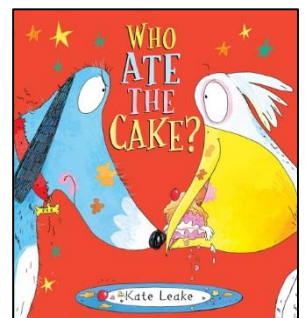


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2 – Let's collect

- Pull together some different objects into mini collections, with one extra similar but unconnected object each time – for example a collection of shells with a pebble, or a collection of toy cars with one toy plane. Ask children to spot which is the odd one out? Can they explain why? Allow them to create their own groupings to share with the rest of the class in the same way.
- Sorting collections of objects is a great opportunity for some 'finger gym': provide a big pile of small objects which can be sorted in different ways, for example a range of dried beans or different coloured counters. Children could use tweezers to help them pick up each object. Having sorted them out, they could then count how many of each type there are. Which type are there most of? Which pile has fewest? How many more are there in this pile than this one? Work together to display this information in a bar graph – either on paper or using lego blocks as a visual representation. Similarly, a range of objects could be buried in a sand pit to be dug up and then sorted in different ways.
- Set up a 'jumble sale' role play area with lots of different and interesting objects. Provide some play money for children to go shopping as if they were buying things for a collection. How far does their money go? What can they buy?





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### 2 – Let's collect

- Hide a number of items around the classroom and outside area. Create a simple list of these objects, and explain that all of the objects on the list have gone missing, and you think the pelican has taken them and hidden them to eat later. Can they find the objects and return them to you? Children should work with a partner to read each item on the list, and then hunt for it. Once they have found an object, they can tick it off on their list.
- Take children on an outdoor walk where they have the opportunity to collect interesting natural objects for a collection such as leaves, conkers or stones. Provide a range of trays, jars and boxes and ask children to think about the best way to display their collection. They could do sketches of the objects they have found.
- Invite children to create or share their own collections, and set up a class exhibition. Children could write labels to explain their collection, and take other adults on a tour of the collections on display.

