

“Bubbles the Dwarf Zebu” Companion Activities

1. The book begins with Bubbles living in India. Research India and write down three facts you have learned:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

2. Find India on a globe or map. On which continent is India located? _____

3. Bubble’s great-great-great-many-many-more greats-grandmother was the first cow in India! Find out at home who your great grandmother was. What year was she born? Where did she live? Write a paragraph about this special person.

4. A zebu is a type of cow characterized by its flap and its hump. Create a chart to show how zebras and other cows are the same and how they are different.

5. What are some of the differences that make you special?

6. Shehzadi is a name meaning “princess.” Do some research and find out what your name means. Does it really describe who you are?

7. The dwarf zebu is a sacred cow in India. Find out which religions are most common in India. Which religions are most common in the United States?

India: _____

USA: _____

8. In India, Bubbles likes to pull plows and carts. Name some other jobs that working animals perform. Why is it important to treat working animals like Bubbles with respect?

9. Bubbles had a long journey from India to the USA. Write about a long journey you have taken.

10. The cows in America pick on Bubbles for being different. Search through the newspaper and cut out pictures of people who are different. Why is it important to celebrate differences?

11. Bubbles is sent to live at the Saint Louis Zoo. What are your favorite animals to see at the zoo?

12. With adult supervision, use the internet to research ways in which zoos are helping to save endangered species.

13. Who are Bubbles' neighbors at the zoo?

14. At the zoo, Zookeepers take care of Bubbles and her neighbors. What are some of the things animals at the zoo need to be happy?

15. Do you remember a special trip to the zoo? Interview an older adult, like a parent or grandparent, about a time they went to the zoo? What are some differences between your trips? What was the same?

16. When Bubbles gets to the Saint Louis Zoo she meets a new friend, Xavier. Write about a time when you made a new friend.

17. What kind of animal is Xavier?

18. How are Xavier and Bubbles different?

19. Bubbles is treated like a shehzadi, a princess, at the Saint Louis Zoo. How can you be responsible for animals and treat them with respect?

This story is based on a real life animal at the Saint Louis Zoo, but told in a fictional way. Use the chart below to divide parts of the story into fact or fiction.

FACT	FICTION