

By: Salina Yoon

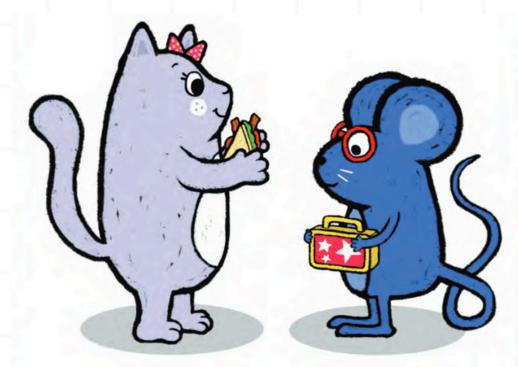
Paper Puppet Conversation

Developed by Maddie Young, Meghan Winston, and Kylie Hawe for CU Boulder's Children Book Festival 2025, Open Education Resource, Creative Commons. Available at colorado.edu/event/bookfest

GRADE AND GOLORADO AGADEMIC STANDARD

Second Grade, Standard 2. Reading for All Purposes

Content area: understanding points of view and different perspectives



Colorado Academic Standards Information:

Standard: Apply specific skills to comprehend and fluently read literary texts

Evidence outcome: Acknowledge differences in the points of view of characters, including by speaking in a different voice for each character when reading dialogue aloud.

Colorado Academic Standard information retrieved from https://www.cde.state.co.us/apps/standards.

View the full standards at

https://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/standards

BRIEF OVERVIEW:

In this activity, students will be creating their own paper puppets and practicing how to differentiate between them. The book I Like Cheese! features a dialogue between Kat and Mouse, and this activity will help emphasize how different characters use distinct or unique voices. Students will use their puppets in a small group or partner setting to practice having their characters speak differently.

Final Puppet Examples:









MATERIALS

- Craft paper
- Age appropriate scissors
- Coloring utensil
- Popsicle sticks
- Tape
- Book: I Like Cheese



DIRECTIONS:

Introduction: Read the book to the students, making sure to emphasize using different voices for Kat and Mouse while reading. Ask students to focus on how Kat and Mouse have differences.

- Pass out materials to all students, and have them draw out their original characters, color them, and then cut them out. Then, have them tape popsicle sticks onto the back of the characters as to create a handle. We would recommend giving the students 20-30 minutes to create their characters.
- If available, pass around copies of the book to allow students to pick 2-4 lines
 from both Kat and Mouse. If there is only one copy, go through the book slowly,
 allowing time on each page for students to write their chosen lines on the backs
 of the puppets. All the lines from Kat they pick should be written on one of their
 puppets, and the lines from Mouse should be written on the other puppet.

DIRECTIONS (CONTINUED):

- Once students have finished writing the lines on the back of their puppets, ask
 them to take a minute or so to imagine a name, personality, and especially voice
 for each puppet.
- After students have differentiated their puppets, have them get into partners or small groups, and have each student read aloud their lines, using their puppets.
 Instruct students to use the voice they created for their puppets when reading the lines. You may also prompt students to introduce their puppets before reading to become more comfortable (say puppets' names, what they are, personality traits).
- Have students **rotate groups every 5 or so minutes** so they get to practice with their puppets and hear other students as well. Sharing time should last for 15-20 minutes total.

Wrap up: Gather students back together as a class. Ask if any would like to share their lines or puppets to the whole group before moving on.

MODIFICATIONS AND CONTINUATION

Modifications

- Have students create their own dialogue.
- Print out character illustrations and have students color them.
- Print quotes from the story and have students read them.

Continuation

 To continue this project, students can perform the whole book as a play, using puppets, or dressing up as the characters, and say the lines themselves.

PRODUCT A



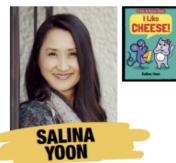
Access

- The activity can be easily accessed on this slide document and replicated with materials in the classroom.
- Recommendations
 As a teacher, making a
 backdrop or stage for the
 puppets would enhance the
 project and increase student
 engagement.

The CU Boulder School of Education and Boulder Bookstore present the

2025 Children's Book Festival

Saturday, November 8 | Boulder Public Library

















Join us on Saturday, November 8, 2025 | 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Boulder Public Library (Main Branch) - 1001 Arapahoe Ave. Free parking available

This free event includes author talks, a panel for educators, book sales and signing children's activities and more. Come for part of the event, or stay for the day!

Free educational resources available on our website. Continuing Education Units

The CU Children's Book Festival is supported by a grant from the CU Office for Public and Community Engaged Scholarship (PACES)



See the schedule & register: colorado.edu/event/bookfest







We also hope you can join us on Saturday, November 8th at the Boulder Public Library to meet Salina Yoon and hear more about I Like Cheese! inperson...along with other authors and illustrators! For more information, visit:

https://www.colorado.edu/event/bookfest