

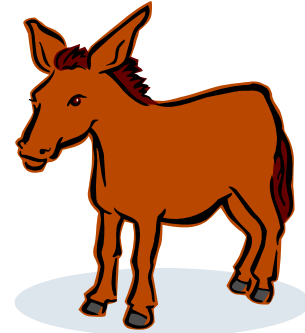
Sylvester and the Magic Pebble

By William Steig

Grades 1-3

Sylvester and the Magic Pebble is a great book to use for St. Patrick's Day or any time of the year!"

Sylvester is a donkey who happens to find a magic pebble that grants wishes. One of Sylvester's wishes causes him to turn into a rock!



Activities:

- ◆ **Vocabulary Word Sort** ~ Use the attached word cards to have students complete a Word Sort. Sorts can be either "Open" (no established criteria set by teacher) or "Closed" (criteria established by the teacher.) Closed Sorts follow a variety of rules including number of syllables, sounds, parts of speech, etc.
- ◆ **Discussion Cards** ~ Cooperative groups place the stack of discussion cards in the middle of the team. Students take turns flipping over a card, one at a time, and discussing it.

Word Sort Cards

Title: SYLVESTER and the Magic Pebble

pebble	hopeless
ceased	insisted
panicked	police
miserable	collection
fetlock	picnic
remarkable	rock

Discussion Cards

Title: SYLVESTER and the Magic Pebble

Why did SYLVESTER pick up the magic pebble?

What was SYLVESTER's first wish?

Do you think that SYLVESTER learned a valuable lesson? Why or why not?

Why did SYLVESTER make a mistake and wish to become a rock?

Define the word "ceased".

Use it in a sentence.

How would the story have been different if SYLVESTER had not wished to become a rock?

What parts of the story could not have actually happened?

Name the groups of people that SYLVESTER's parents talked to as they tried to find him.