

Bink & Gollie

Recommended for Grades 1-3

Book Summary: Bink & Gollie

Bink and Gollie are two girls who enjoy having adventures together. In a collection of three short tales, they learn to compromise with pancakes and bright socks, celebrate climbing mountains with peanut butter sandwiches and gain a most marvelous companion. Through all their adventures, the girls demonstrate the importance and value of true friendship.

Author Biography: Kate DiCamillo

Kate DiCamillo was born on March 25, 1964 in Philadelphia. As a young child, she suffered from chronic pneumonia, causing her family to move to Florida when she was five years old. She attended the University of Florida, where she majored in English. Kate moved to Minnesota after graduation. She worked in a book warehouse for several years before publishing her first book, *Because of Winn-Dixie* (2000). She presently lives and works in Minneapolis, Minnesota, where she faithfully writes two pages a day.



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Discussion Questions: Because of Winn-Dixie

1. How are Bink and Gollie different? Which of the two are you most like? How?
2. Bink loves her new bright socks, but Gollie doesn't. How do the girls work out their differences? How do you and your friends compromise?
3. How do the pictures contribute to the story? Do you think the book would be better if there were fewer pictures? Why or why not? What kind of information do the illustrations give that the text doesn't?
4. Instead of one story, the book is made up of three stories. How do these three tales fit together? Do they all stand well on their own? Why or why not?
5. Gollie spends an afternoon pretending to climb the Andes Mountains. Why do you think the illustrator drew the pictures as though Gollie was really climbing the mountain?
6. Even though Gollie insist Bink not bother her while she was having her mountain adventure, Bink persisted and even brought lunch for them to share. How might the story have ended differently if Bink had followed the instructions of the notes?
7. What are some examples of true friendship in the stories? Can either Gollie or Bink be said to be a better friend to the other? Why or why not?
8. Gollie insists that fish cannot be marvelous companions, but Bink thinks they can. Who do you think is right? Why?
9. Do you think Gollie is jealous when Bink brings Fred along? Why or why not? Do you get jealous when your friends choose to spend their time with someone else?
10. When Fred's bowl breaks, Gollie catches the fish and puts it in a pond. Was there another way she could've saved the fish? If so, how? Do you think Bink will get another fish?
11. What other activities do you think the girls might do together? What kinds of activities do you and your friends do together? Do you do different kinds of activities with different friends?



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