

Lamont Books Standing Order

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Teacher Notes and Activities

The Adventures of Beekle The Unimaginary Friend

By Dan Santat

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\$24.99

He patiently waits his turn to be chosen by a real child, but when he is overlooked time and again, he sets off on an incredible journey to the bustling city, where he finally meets his perfect match and - at long last - is given his special name: Beekle. New York Times bestselling and award-winning author and illustrator Dan Santat combines classic storytelling with breathtaking art, creating an unforgettable tale about friendship, imagination, and the courage to find one's place in the world.



Themes:

- Friendship
- Imagination
- Courage

Discussion Points

- Why do children sometimes have 'imaginary friends'? Have you got one or ever had one? If so, why?
- We imagine lots of things in our lives. Is having an 'imaginary friend' just an extension of the ways that we can use our imagination?
- What is the craziest, most creative thing that you have ever imagined?
- Why do you think the story is called *The Adventures of Beekle The Unimaginary Friend*? Is unimaginary even a real word?
- The imaginary friend, who doesn't yet know his name, sets off on a big adventure to find his friend, and the thought of making a friend keeps him going. What does this tell us about him and his character?
- Why are friends so important in our lives? Discuss.
- What is the nicest thing that you have done for a friend? What is the nicest thing a friend has done for you?
- Study the double page spread of the tree closely. Describe what and who you see.
- Making new friends can be hard. Look closely at the illustrations showing Beekle and Alice meeting. How did Beekle and Alice overcome their difficulties and get to know each other?

Activities:

- Design and make your own 'unimaginary friend'. Make sure that you give it a name!
- Using a large sheet of paper, draw the trunk of your own tree like the one that Beekle climbed up. Use some of the Autumn leaves that are around in the garden to finish it off.