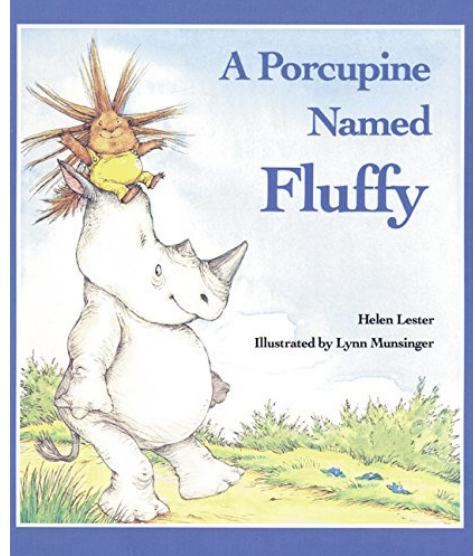




A PORCUPINE NAMED FLUFFY

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Fluffy is a little porcupine with a name that doesn't quite fit. He isn't fluffy, he's prickly! His name never feels like it fits him. How will he feel when someone makes fun of his name? What will he do?



Questions:

1. How do you feel about your name? What would it be like to hate your name, or feel like it didn't fit you? How would you feel when people called you by name? Should you be able to choose a new name or a nickname that others call you instead?
2. How do you think Fluffy feels every time he isn't fluffy, but pokey? Would it be easy to be reminded every day that you aren't what people expect? How do you think he felt when he couldn't live up to his name?
3. How do you think Fluffy feels as he tries to change himself to be something else just so he can fit everyone else's expectations? Should people have to change who they are to make others happy or comfortable? Or should everyone be allowed to be exactly who they are?
4. How do you think Fluffy felt on his walk as he tried to figure out how to be something he wasn't?
5. How do you think Fluffy felt when he met the rhinoceros? What about when the rhinoceros said he was going to give him a rough time?
6. How do you think Fluffy felt when the rhinoceros started laughing at him for his name? Is it nice to laugh at people for things they can't help?
7. Why do you think the rhinoceros was laughing at Fluffy and being mean when they first met? Was he a happy rhinoceros? Why wasn't he happy? What do people sometimes do when they are unhappy to make themselves feel better?
8. Sometimes people say that "hurt people hurt people". Is that true in this story? Is it possible that the rhinoceros was being mean only because he also didn't feel good about himself? Does that make it okay to make fun of someone else or threaten them?
9. What do you think might have happened if Fluffy had tried to fight the rhinoceros or just walked away crying? Can being kind to a bully or talking to them and getting to know them better ever help?