


Jeanne Willis & Jarvis



# SPIKE

## The Hedgehog Who Lost His Prickles

Nosy  
Crow

Spike, a little hedgehog, has always had impressive prickles. But one morning, after a particularly scary dream, he wakes up completely bare! Illustrated by Jarvis. Published by Nosy Crow.

# Learn

## ***Spike: The Hedgehog Who Lost His Prickles***

Spike the hedgehog wakes up one morning without his prickles – he is completely bare! He tries lots of different ways to cover himself up as he is so embarrassed - a frilly paper lampshade, a plate and even a sock. In the end, the balloons save the day. Will he get his prickles back?

Watch TV presenter Naomi Wilkinson read an extract from *Spike: The Hedgehog Who Lost His Prickles*.

Think about the following:

- What happens to the sock?
- Do you think that Weasel is kind to Spike?
- What does Spike find attached to Mole's door?
- What do you think will happen next?



Watch Naomi Wilkinson read an extract from 'Spike: The Hedgehog Who Lost His Prickles' by Jeanne Willis.

**Video Transcript** ▼

Now watch Naomi read another extract from *Spike: The Hedgehog Who Lost His Prickles* and think about the following:

- Did you expect the balloons to carry Spike into the air?
- How do you think Spike felt?
- What do you think he saw when he travelled twice around the world?
- What did you think of the ending?



Watch Naomi read a further extract from 'Spike: The Hedgehog Who Lost His Prickles' by Jeanne Willis.

**Video Transcript** ▾



## Activity 1

### Extract 1

*But to his great dismay...*  
*...the sock unravelled on a thorn.*  
*'You're all bare,' teased Weasel*  
*'as the day that you were born!'*  
*'Oh, please don't tease me Weasel!'*  
*little Spike said with a sigh.*  
*'I don't know why I have no prickles*  
*and it makes me shy.'*  
*But Weasel said, 'You'll freeze!*  
*A chilly breeze is in the air.*  
*You'll catch a cold and sneeze,*  
*So please put on some underwear!'*  
*Spike went red and off he fled. He had no pants or vest.*  
*He really missed his prickles and felt badly underdressed.*  
*And just when he believed he couldn't bear it any more...*  
*...he saw balloons! A great big bunch!*  
*Attached to Mole's front door,*  
*Spike grabbed the string.*  
*'They're just the thing to cover me,' he said.*  
*And he wound balloons around himself*  
*from tiny toe to head.*  
*'The height of fashion!' Squirrel said.*  
*'So colourful and round!'*



1. Skim and scan the extract for the part where Weasel speaks to Spike.

At first, we may think that Weasel teases Spike, but look closely and you will see that Weasel also speaks a lot of sense and advises Spike. Do you think that Weasel is a good friend?

2. Find some evidence that shows that Weasel teases Spike and some that shows he is advising Spike.

Copy the table below and add your ideas to it.

	Evidence That Shows Weasel Teases Spike	Evidence That Shows Weasel Advises Spike
Evidence		

3. Write a sentence to explain if you think Weasel is a good friend or not. Use the word 'because' to give your evidence.

For example:

**I think Weasel is a good friend because .....**

**I do not think Weasel is a good friend because .....**

## Activity 2

### Extract 2

*As everyone admired him, Spike lifted off the ground!*

*He drifted, shifted by the wind, and floated out of sight...*

*The sun went down. Away he blew into the moonlit night.*

*Over snowy mountains where the wild grey wolves all howl...*

*...Over steamy jungles where the roaring tigers prowl.*

*Twice around the world he went. He thought he'd never stop.*

*Then he saw his home!*

*He waved.*

*And his balloons went ...*

*POP!*

*He dropped down to the mossy ground and landed*

*... with a thud.*

*The burst balloons, in tatters, Scattered round him in the mud.*

*'Spike's not bare!' his friends declared. 'He's sharper than a tack!'*

*'I popped all my balloons!' whooped Spike. 'My prickles have grown back!'*

*So Badger threw a party for him- everybody came! Prickly Spike no longer had to hang his head in shame.*

*And even when he turned to leave, His friends were very kind, pretending not to see the...*

*... cupcake stuck to his behind!*

1. Read or watch both extracts again. Spike is the main character in this story and we can describe him in many ways.
2. Think about how you would describe Spike to somebody who has not read this book.

Here are some words that you might use:

- **determined**
- **embarrassed**
- **resilient**
- **frightened**
- **excited**
- **brave**
- **creative**
- **proud**



3. Choose two of the words, or think of your own, and find some evidence from the extracts that supports your choice.

How Would You Describe Spike?	What Is Your Evidence From The Extract?
1.	
2.	

### Activity 3

At the end of the story, nobody tells Spike that he has a cupcake stuck to his bottom! What do you think will happen next?

Write down some different predictions.

#### Top tip!

Use your imagination and be creative with your ideas.

These may help you to start your ideas:

- **What if....**
- **Spike might....**
- **Imagine if...**
- **Spike could....**
- **The other animals might....**