



## Art and Storytime

### Welcome to **Pollywog At Home**, Session 3! The Bad Seed by Jory John and Pete Oswald

Parts to **(read aloud)** to kids are labeled before the text.  
Parts that are **((asides to caregivers))** are indicated with double parenthesis.

#### **(read aloud)**

Hello Pollywoggers! We have arrived at the third class at home! Did you like the first two? Remember to share your pictures when you can - I can show them here so our friends can see!

#### **Welcome Song –**

We start with the Welcome Song to help us remember what it's like to be together! Remember what it was like to do this together in our group time? This is for everyone to sing. If your grown-up is nervous about it, you can remind them that I'm not a very good singer:

~ sung to the tune of Rock-A-Bye Baby ~

Welcome to Art Class!  
Ready for some fun?  
First we sit still,  
and quietly listen.  
After our screen time,  
we'll make something new -  
but first we sing this  
so we know what to do!

#### **Opening (read aloud)**

Today my idea is to use a dried food item as one of our art supplies. I have mixed feelings about this. Dried food items are the best kind for storing something to eat at home, and if you keep them carefully you can avoid going to the stores for quite a long time. We are living in a time right now where it is important to stay home and away from other people, who could be sick. People are currently allowed to go to grocery stores, but it is safest to do that as little as possible. So - I will list some other things you can use if you need to when it comes time to make art with food items for this project.

Can you think of some foods that are NOT easy to store? Do you know which foods start to spoil in just a week or two? See if you can name three foods like that with your grown-up helper. Here are two clues: Farmers help produce these foods, and they are often the healthiest foods for us. ((Take time to discuss together.))

### **Storytime (read aloud)**

While we can't be together, I will be sharing internet links to a story being read online. I like reading with you - but this is a great solution for now. Here is today's story link – we will be seeing and listening to the book **The Bad Seed** by John Jory (who wrote the words) and Pete Oswald (who made the pictures).

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uqsGoiz-ufg>

((copy and paste into browser if clicking does not work))

### **After Story (read aloud)**

That was a fun story! It was also a good reminder that you can feel a certain way sometimes, but that feeling is not really who you are. The seed wasn't a bad seed just because it had bad feelings for a while. You are still your own special self as you act on your different feelings.

### **Our Project (read aloud)**

Okay - let's get together some things for our project. Remember how I said we may use some food items?

### **Materials –**

- Four (4) small dry food items, such as: different colored beans, lentils, chickpeas, rice, birdseed of different kinds (separated by type of seed), small dry pasta, cookie and cake decorating sprinkles, or even a little bit of dry herbs like parsley. You do not need much of these things. A tablespoon full (or less) is probably plenty.

Alternatively: It may not be a good time to use dried food items for an art project (even a little bit) – and if you do not have any to spare, you can use some of these non-food items, such as: small beads (separated by color and size), small pebbles (pea-sized), bits of colored paper trimmed into tiny pieces, grass trimmed into tiny squares (cutting is good fine motor-skill practice). Once you see how we are using these things, you can easily come up with creative solutions.

These items are our **COLOR PALETTE** for today. A color palette, you may remember, is all of the colors we make available for a piece of artwork.

- A lid from your recycling container. A peanut butter jar lid is perfect, because a smaller lid would be difficult to work with. If a lid is not available, you can cut a cardboard disk to the approximate size.
- A few small dishes made from caps, lids, and children's medicine cups. These are for sorting your little colored items.
- White glue
- Tweezers (optional, but useful)

((We will be using materials during Pollywog At Home that families are likely to already have on hand. If I list an item you do not have, see if you can think of a substitute - - if you're really stuck for a solution, feel free to email me for advice! [r.schiding.studio@comcast.net](mailto:r.schiding.studio@comcast.net)))

Here is a photo of my materials assembled (not including the tweezers):



This is a project to work on closely together. If you do projects side-by-side, it may help your child understand what to do, better than words alone. We are not aiming for perfection here. It will be pretty and fun however it is completed both the both of you.

1) Close to the center of the lid - but a little higher - place a blob of white glue and make a small island of color with your pieces. I used black beads.



2) Make a little ring of glue around your first shape.



3) Use little pieces or beans that look most like flower petals, and place them in the glue around your center shape.



4) With the white glue, draw a little flower stem and a leaf shape. Apply a new color of tiny pieces to this glue. Little children have an advantage here, with their tiny fingers! It is still a challenging exercise in motor control, though. This is a good time to try using tweezers to place the small pieces carefully. (Another way to practice fine motor-skills!)



5) Apply glue to all of the background areas remaining on your project, and place the remaining colored pieces to the piece. It is good to use a neutral color in the background so that the other elements can be seen clearly. Using tweezers to insert your pieces into the spaces between other elements (like flower petals, or between the stem and the leaf) is especially useful in this last step.

6) Drizzling a little glue over the finished creation, and allowing it to dry clear, can serve to make it more permanent and secure. You can add a strong magnet to the back, make a necklace, or just decorate with your new little art medallion!

Here is a picture of my finished sample:



Your project can look entirely different! You could make a heart, ladybug, peace sign, smiley face – or any other simple symbol that can be represented with few colors in a small space. It will also look nice if it is just an abstract assembly of pieces in different colors!

As we do Pollywog At Home, you are encouraged to send photos of your Pollywog projects to me at my email address: [r.schiding.studio@comcast.net](mailto:r.schiding.studio@comcast.net). I will share the work on the Library's website at the end of our Pollywog lessons. (I do not show children's faces in photos of their work that I share.)

Okay - That's all for today!

You and I are lucky to be able to have art and storytime together. Thanks to **Wernersville Public Library!** Libraries are the best! They give us the chance to have wonderful things, without needing to spend extra money! Remember to thank them when you get the chance.

**((You can receive credit for attending and working through this Pollywog At Home! Please follow this link to a form that will go to the Wernersville Public Library for an attendance prize: <https://forms.gle/VKWn1nmTA7yKQfGz6> – – copy and paste into browser if clicking does not work))**