DON’T LET THE PIGEON STAY UP LATE!
by Mo Willems
Ages: 2-7; Grades: PreK-2
Themes: Families, Bedtime, Health, Humor
Running Time: 6 minutes

SUMMARY
The feisty pigeon from Don’t Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus! and The Pigeon Finds a Hot Dog! is back, and this time he is not tired! Using all of his powers of persuasion, the pigeon cajoles and pleads to stay up, just a little later. He thinks of everything from educational TV to quality conversation, but just can’t help letting little, then bigger, yawns escape. Young viewers are sure to relate to the pigeon’s antics, while parents and caregivers are sure to relate to the classic signs of over-tired hyperactivity. Will the pigeon succeed in his quest to stay up late?

OBJECTIVES
• Students will make text-to-text and text-to-self connections.
• Students will discuss the benefits of getting enough sleep.
• Students will create and describe a personalized bedtime routine.

BEFORE VIEWING ACTIVITIES
Read a nonfiction book about sleep to students. Create a chart entitled, “Why Sleep is Important”. Encourage students to listen for information to add to the chart. After reading discuss some questions:
• What happens to the body when we sleep?
• What happens when we don’t get enough sleep?
• What are some things that help us get to sleep?
• What are some things that people do when they are tired?
Tell students that they are going to see a funny movie about a pigeon who doesn’t want to go to bed. Ask them to watch for signs that the pigeon is really tired, even if he says he isn’t.

AFTER VIEWING ACTIVITIES
Revisit making text-to-self connections. Ask students if they’ve ever felt like the pigeon and not wanted to go to bed. Then, guide students through a writing activity where they brainstorm all of the reasons that they might give to their parents or caregivers for why they should be able to stay up late. Have students make a book in which they draw a picture on each page that shows one of their reasons for staying up late. Older children can add a sentence to their pictures. Ask parents/guardians to send a picture to school of their child sleeping. Have children add this picture to the last page of their books. Set aside a time for sharing!

Have students share what they do before going to bed. How do they wind down? Do they have a set bed time? Give students an opportunity to share their bedtime routines with each other. Then, show them a picture chart of your bedtime routine. This may include pictures of brushing teeth, reading a book, listening to music, cuddling a pet, drinking water, taking a bath, and putting on pajamas. Provide these same pictures for students to cut out and glue onto a piece of construction paper, in the order of things that they do before bed. Emphasize that students don’t have to use all of the pictures, and encourage them to draw pictures of their own, if their routine includes something different. Send their bedtime routine posters home to help students remember the importance of winding down and getting a good night’s sleep.

Introduce children to different lullabies from around the world. Teach these songs during community meeting time or during social studies. Show students where on the map or globe the lullaby originates, and include photos of that place. Extend the learning by highlighting any specific sleep facts such as: where do people sleep, do people from this culture sleep together or on their own, and are there any special sleep rituals practiced by this culture.

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The pigeon will try everything to stay awake in this fun bedtime story that every child will relate to. Can you get him to go to sleep?

In another book featuring "the pigeon," award-winning author Mo Willems asks the reader to not let the pigeon stay up late. The pigeon will try everything to stay awake in this fun bedtime story that every child will relate to. Can you get him to go to sleep?

Save to list. Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus! Mo Willems. 4.7 out of 5 stars 1,030. Paperback. AED 52.27. The Pigeon Wants a Puppy! Mo Willems. 4.8 out of 5 stars 387. Hardcover. AED 37.86. The Pigeon Finds a Hot Dog! Mo Willems. 4.8 out of 5 stars 377. Hardcover. AED 63.61. The Pigeon Has Feelings, Too! Mo Willems. 4.5 out of 5 stars 413. Board book. AED 42.26. The Pigeon Has to Go to School! Mo Willems. 4.8 out of 5 stars 917. This story hits a little closer to home as we heard Pigeon making some of the same excuses Autumn makes to stay up late. We laughed and laughed! This book gets a multi-generational, whole family recommendation. Pigeon wants to stay up late, but for all his shenanigans trying to devise ways to be allowed to stay up late, he actually ends up tiring himself out in the end. flag 4 likes · Like · see review. Dec 18, 2013 Eli rated it it was amazing. I loved the way that the Pigeon tries to persuade the readers to let him stay up late as many hilarious dialogues pop up whenever he is trying to convince everyone that he should stay up late. One of my most favorite quotes from the Pigeon was this: "How about five more minutes?"