

Wonder Horse: The True Story of the World's Smartest Horse

by Emily Arnold McCully

Enjoy the Book Together

- Doc showed that treating animals with kindness was better than being cruel to them. Look for evidence in the story that supports this statement.
- This story is titled *Wonder Horse: The True Story of the World's Smartest Horse*. While reading, look for details in the story that support this title.

Make Personal Connections

- Doc hoped the horse would be a champion race horse, but he was born with twisted legs. Doc treated the horse with kindness, and Jim learned many things. Discuss a time that something did not go your way with your child, but explain how you made the best of it.
- Some people thought that Jim's intelligence was a hoax so they were mean to Doc; but the insults made Doc more determined. Have your child think of a time when someone told him or her that something was impossible. Ask: *How did you feel? Did you give up, or try harder?*
- Imagine you and your child had an animal that had special talents. What tricks would you both teach them?

Literacy Tip

This story touches on slavery, prejudice, and cruelty to animals. Further discussion may be warranted depending on your child.

ON MY OWN

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Make an advertisement using pictures and words for Jim and Doc's show. Be sure to promote all of Jim's talents, and don't forget to include the show's sponsor.

