

KATIE KAZOO, SWITCHEROO

Dear Teacher:

Happy New Year! January and February are busy months both in the school calendar and in students' familial lives. But you'll find that your class's Katie Kazoo Crew will be happy to make room for activities tied to their favorite books.

In this guide, you'll find a community service project that will give your students a chance to extend the joy of giving well beyond the holiday season. Also included is a words-collection activity that will allow students to dress up your classroom (and their own rooms) with language. And, speaking of dressing up, there's a bracelet-making project too! But the fun and learning doesn't stop here. We have included a Geography Game to help motivate students to learn more about cities, and states across the country. There's also more great ideas for the students' journal-keeping, and topics to talk about.

And last but certainly not least, we have included a special surprise for you, the teacher! Inside you will find your very own Katie Kazoo shelf talker, which can be placed on the book shelf when displaying your classroom collection of Katie books!

As always, our activities correspond with your classroom curriculum:

- Keeping Up with Your Very Own Katie Kazoo Journal—x2
Language Arts—Responding to Literature and Creative Writing
- A Katie Kazoo Collection
*Language Arts—Appreciating Literature and Language;
Reading for Details*
- Katie Kazoo—Where Are You?
Geography
- Read to your Community
Community Service; Cooperative Learning
- Switcheroo Bracelets
Arts and Crafts
- Talk About
Communication Skills; Responding to Literature

This kit contains the following reproducibles:

- Instructions for Making Paper Bracelets
- Paper bracelet template



My Very Own Katie Kazoo Journal – x2



As you read new titles in the Katie Kazoo, Switcheroo series, remember to continue writing in your journal.

On the side of your journal where you record which of the Katie Kazoo, Switcheroo books you've read, along with your comments about them, try responding by drawing a cartoon of one of the important incidents in the book you've just read. Maybe it's a picture of Katie right after the switcheroo, when she realizes which person she has become. Or it might be a conversation between Katie and one of her friends. Just pick a moment in the book that you think is important and draw it.

Then flip your journal over to the creative writing side. Try writing a poem. It doesn't have to be about anything in the book itself, but it should come from what your reading helped you to imagine, dream, or feel.



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A Katie Kazoo Collection

As you read the Katie Kazoo, Switcheroo books, we're sure there are sentences, phrases and words that catch your attention in a special way. Maybe you read the line over a couple of times. Or there's a word you especially like and begin to make a part of your everyday vocabulary. It might be a description of a character that really says it all for you.

Go through the books and identify some of your favorite words and/or phrases. Write them into your journal. Then pick two or three of your most favorite to make into "word posters." Ask your teacher for some sentence strip (pieces of sturdy tag board that are sometimes laminated), or just cut up some heavy oak tag or construction paper into long strips.

Copy your phrases and words onto the strips. Be creative. Use fancy penmanship, block letters, or stencils. If you know a little calligraphy, you can make this really fancy. You can also use your computer to print your phrases and words using different fonts, type sizes, and word art. (*Note: To use word art on your computer, open a word processing program and click on the "word art" icon-the slanted letter "A" -at the bottom of the screen. Choose one of the designs, pick a type face, and type your phrase. Then click "OK". We've provided some word art samples below.*) When you like what you've created, print them out and paste them onto the sentence strip.

Your teacher might make a special place for this Katie Kazoo Word Collection in your classroom. And you certainly can make room for it at home. You'll find it's a real treat to have Katie's voice surrounding you.

Here are some of our favorite words and phrases to get you thinking:

Switcheroo!

The magic wind

That's what your name should be, Katie. Not Katie Carew. Katie Kazoo! (*Book 1, page 15*)

But everyone agreed that a pizza sure would taste good. (*Book 19, page 25*)

Animals need love, too. (*Book 15, page 9*)

The Christmas spirit sure was a powerful force! (*Katie Kazoo Christmas, page 119*)

Word Art Samples

switcheroo **switcheroo**

THE MAGIC WIND

Animals need love, too!

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Katie Kazoo Where Are You?

In *Friends for Never*, we get a good idea of how the kids learn in Mr. Guthrie's class.

Mr. Guthrie wasn't a typical teacher. He did things his own way.

Like now. The kids were studying world geography. But rather than just reading about Switzerland, the kids in class 4A were standing on a hill in the field behind the school, practicing yodeling. The hill was the closest thing the elementary school had to the mountains of Switzerland. Mr. Guthrie called it the Cherrydale Alps.

You all know that Katie lives in Cherrydale. And you know quite a lot about that town. And we're sure that you know tons more about other cities and towns all across the country! And, like Mr. Guthrie, we think a great way to learn about the geography—the places—in and around the United States is with a game.



The usual way to play the geography game is to have someone start by naming a place. Say, Cherrydale. Then the next person has to name a place that begins with the last letter of Cherrydale, "E." England, for example. The third player must name a place that begins with the letter D, the last letter in the word England. How about Denver? And so on. As the game moves along, it gets harder, because you cannot repeat places that were already used.

Your crew can add their own special flair to the game by using a map of the United States, or the world, to locate the places named in the game. Students can use cities, towns, rivers, landmarks, parks, and places of interest that are located all across the country.

Pick someone to start and then go traveling around the world. Mr. Guthrie would be proud.

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Read to Your Community



During the holiday season, many people turn their attention to giving to charities or volunteering within their own communities at homeless shelters, food pantries and even nursing homes. Let's work to extend this spirit of volunteerism throughout the year!

Your Katie Kazoo Crew can do something nice for the people in your community NOW, at the start of the new year, by offering to volunteer a few times a month at a local nursing home. Students can adopt an elderly friend and spend time with them by reading some of their favorite Katie Kazoo books!

Not only will your students perfect their reading skills but they will also be helping to give back to the community as well.



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Switcheroo Bracelets

There's a popular expression: "wearing your heart on your sleeve," that is often used to describe people who show their feelings openly and obviously. For example, if you have a crush on someone (like Becky does), it's clear to everyone by the way you act and the things you say. If you are angry at someone, that shows, too.

We're proposing a kind of version of this, but instead of wearing your heart on your sleeve, here's a way to show off your favorite Katie Kazoo, Switcheroo book or character on your wrist.

Paper bracelets, often made from candy or chewing gum wrappers, are popular all over the country. In this activity, you'll make paper bracelets out of your very own designs. Make sure that you leave enough room to write in your favorite book title on the bracelet. Then everyone will know that you are a fan of *Bad Rap*; or that you think *Drat! You Copycat* is the best book in the series; or you agree that everyone should *Be Nice to Mice!*

Just follow the directions for making your paper bracelet, and once they're ready, write in the title of your choice on the face of the bracelet. Then wear it proudly.

You and a friend might switch off bracelets, too. If you can't choose between books, you can take turns wearing each other's bracelets. Of course, you can also make a couple of bracelets for yourself, so you can switch off whenever you like.

Directions for Making a Paper Bracelet

Materials:

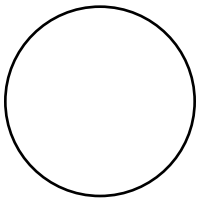
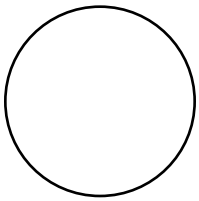
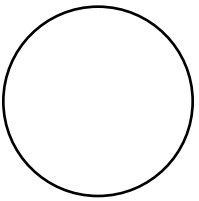
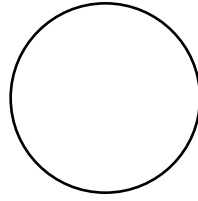
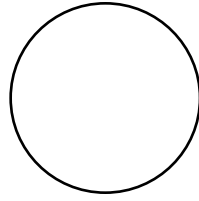
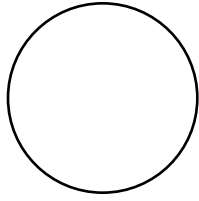
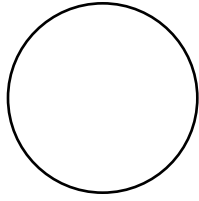
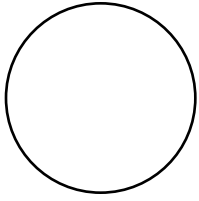
- Katie Switcheroo bracelet template or 1.5" x 10" piece of white paper
- Scissors
- Crayons
- Piece of tape or glue
- Pencil

Making the Bracelet:

- Make a photocopy of the bracelet template provided or cut out a strip of plain paper, for each member of your crew.
- Color and draw pictures of you favorite Katie Kazoo characters or particular scenes from a book. Don't forget to include the title of your favorite book as well!
- Cut out the bracelet.
- Starting at one end, wrap the bracelet around your wrist so that you know how much room you will need before taping or gluing the ends together. Use a pencil to mark the area. Now, glue the ends of the bracelet together.



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Talk About . . .



Friendship

Katie's two best friends, Jeremy Fox and Suzanne Lock, were in class 4B. Katie missed them sometimes. It would have been nice to be with them all day.

But Katie still got to see Suzanne and Jeremy at recess, during track team practices, and on the weekend after her Saturday morning clarinet lessons. They still had lots of fun together.

Katie has learned something really important in fourth grade. She didn't have to be with her best friends all day long. No matter what class they were in, Katie and her pals were friends forever!
— from *Friends for Never!*

Talk with your own friends about whether they think kids can stay close friends if they are not in the same class or the same school. What happens when a good friend and his or her family moves away? Can a friendship continue? Can people have two “best” friends, the way Katie does? Do you have different kinds of friends?

Jealousy

Katie and Suzanne stared at their teacher. They'd never even seen her walk fast before, never mind run.

“You-hoo! Rosie!” Mrs. Derkman shouted. “Hello.”

Rosie jumped to her feet. “Hello,” she said quietly.

“Oh I can hardly believe you're here, Mrs. Derkman exclaimed. “You're even more beautiful in real life. And I love the outfit you're wearing.”

Suzanne and Katie studied Rosie's clothes. She was wearing black stretch jeans, a leopard pattern shirt, and a leather jacket, with fringe. She did look pretty cool.

“I think that's probably the most fashionable thing anyone has ever worn at Cherrydale Elementary School,” Mrs. Derkman gushed.

Suzanne let out a tiny gasp.

—from *Quiet on the Set*

When Rosie Moran, movie star and child actress, comes to Cherrydale, she stirs up a lot of jealous feelings, especially in Suzanne. Most of us feel jealous every now and then. Talk about the times you've been jealous of someone famous or of someone you know—a classmate, a neighbor, your sibling, perhaps. Why were you jealous? Are there ways to turn that feeling around? Do you think anyone is ever jealous of you and your accomplishments?