



# story telling MATH

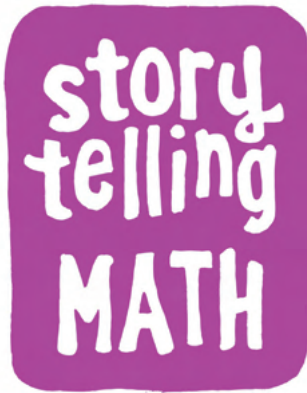


## Activity Guide

**Celebrate diversity, math, and the power of storytelling!**

Joyful stories and hands-on activities  
make it easy for kids and their grown-ups  
to explore everyday math together.





Storytelling Math celebrates children using math in their daily adventures as they play, build, and discover the world around them. Joyful stories and hands-on activities make it easy for kids and their grown-ups to explore everyday math together.

[www.charlesbridge.com/storytellingmath](http://www.charlesbridge.com/storytellingmath)

# The Animals Would Not Sleep!

Math activities by Marlene Kliman, TERC



978-1-62354-128-6 HC  
978-1-62354-197-2 PB  
e-book available

## About the Book

It's bedtime for Marco and his stuffed animals, but the animals have other ideas. When Marco tries to put them away, they fly, swim, and slither out of their bins. Can Marco sort the animals so everyone is happy?

## About the Math

Marco wants to organize his animals so they are comfortable at bedtime. He first sorts them by how they move. He then sorts by color and size. Different ways of sorting yield different results. When he sorts by color, friends Zebra and Giraffe are tearfully separated. When he re-sorts by size, they are reunited. In the end Marco finds a solution that works for everyone.

As children explore sorting, they are thinking mathematically. They learn that they can sort sets—or organize data—in different ways. They also discover that the way they choose to sort matters.

*Karen Economopoulos*

*Co-Director of the Investigations Center for Curriculum and Professional Development, TERC*

## About the Author

Sara Levine is a veterinarian, educator, and author whose picture books include *Flower Talk* and *Bone by Bone*. She lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts. [www.saralevinebooks.com](http://www.saralevinebooks.com)

## About the Illustrator

Marta Álvarez Miguéns has illustrated many picture books, including *Dinosaur Lady* and *Shark Lady*. She lives in Spain. [www.martalvarez.com](http://www.martalvarez.com)



## Math Activities

Explore sorting and classifying with these activities!



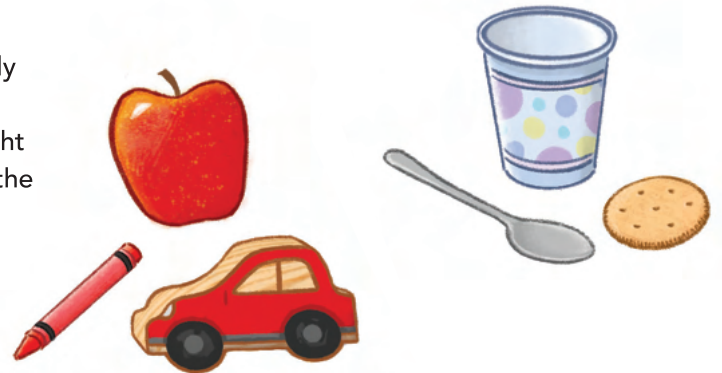
### Secret Sort

Play a sorting game with six to ten objects. One person sorts the objects into two groups but doesn't tell anyone how they sorted. The others guess how the objects were sorted. They keep going until they figure it out. Next time, someone else sorts.



### Secret Selection

Sharpen observation skills with a game based on "Twenty Questions." Lay out five to ten objects. One person secretly chooses an object. The others ask yes-no questions to rule out as many items as possible. For example, a guesser might ask, "Is it red?" If the answer is no, the person who chose the object removes all the red items. Keep going until only the secret selection remains.



### Guess Our Lineup

Try this game with five to ten people. Two people leave the room, while the others pick a category to line up by. It should be something everyone can easily compare or count, like height, hair length, or number of pockets. When everyone is in order, the two people return to the room and try to figure out how the group has lined up.

