

Grades pre-K-2



# Your Teacher's Guide

from Blue Dot Kids Press



**“A quiet, comforting story about the giving and receiving of care.” —*School Library Connection***

*I'll Take Care of You*, written by Maria Loretta Giraldo,  
illustrated by Nicoletta Bertelle, and translated by Johanna McCalmont  
Pub Date April 12, 2022 | ISBN 9781737603238 | Ages 3-7



*We intentionally leave this page blank so our guides can be printed like a book.*



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## Before Reading

**Establish background knowledge. What do the title and cover illustrations tell you about the book?**

- Where do you think the story takes place?
- Who will be in the story?
- What might happen in the story?
- Who takes care of you? Do you take care of anyone or anything? What does it mean to take care of someone or something?



## During Reading

**As you read, think about the elements of the story.**

- Setting: Where and when is the story taking place?
- Point of view: Who is telling the story?
- Cause-and-effect relationships: What is happening and why?
- Characters: Who is in the story? How are they related? What are their traits—their characteristics, their motivations, and their feelings?
- Pause occasionally and wonder, *What will happen next?*
- How does the time of day or the time of year affect the sequence of events?
- How do the illustrations create mood, emphasize aspects of a character, and show the setting?

## After Reading

**Check for understanding.**

- Who are the book's main characters? Who are the supporting characters?
- Who is the *I* and the *you* in *I'll Take Care of You*? Is there more than one *I* and more than one *you*? How does each *I* take care of each *you* in this story?
- Were you surprised by what happens at the end of the story? What clues did the author put in the story that could have led you to expect this? If the book continued, what do you think would happen next?
- What are the themes or messages of the book? How were they developed?
- What is the author's purpose for writing this book?
- What new information did you learn as you read?



*Consider language.*

**Anthropomorphism** is when you give human characteristics to animals or things. For example, when you see a house, and the windows look like eyes and the door a mouth, and you exclaim, “That house is surprised!”—that is anthropomorphism. When your dog looks at you as you pick up a stick to throw, you may see your dog smile.

- What examples of anthropomorphism are in *I’ll Take Care of You*?
- Do you see these examples in both the text and the illustrations?

## Research

The characters and what they do in *I’ll Take Care of You* tie closely to the weather and the seasons. Choose a plant or tree that is common where you live and research its life cycle.

- What does its seed look like? How does that seed get carried to the earth?
- What time of year does the plant or tree release its seeds? When do the new seeds start to sprout?
- What kind of weather conditions do these seeds need to grow?
- Do animals eat or live in this plant or tree? Which animals? What times of year do they eat or live in this plant or tree? Why then?

## Draw a Care Circle

*I’ll Take Care of You* describes a never-ending circle of care:

**The Earth, the Water, and the Sun care for the seed...**

**...that grows into a tree...**

**...that provides a home for a bird...**

**...who eventually rescues and plants another little seed...**

**...that the Earth, the Water, and the Sun care for...**

What kind of care cycles are you involved in? Or can you extend this care cycle by imagining what happens next? Who else could care for this seed? Who else might the seed, once it becomes a tree, help?

*Draw or make a collage of images from magazines or what you find online.*

Could you try to imitate at least part of the artistic style of the illustrator of *I’ll Take Care of You*? Try using similar colors and shapes.





## Citizen Science

**Citizen science**, also called **community science**, happens when people study the world around them and send the data they collect to scientists.

**A citizen scientist** is anyone—young or old, who has attended a lot of school or who hasn't, from a city or a small town—who collects data for research projects and helps to answer real scientific questions. Citizen scientists offer invaluable help because, together, they can collect data over greater distances and longer periods of time than scientists and researchers alone.

*Be a citizen scientist—by birdwatching!*

The Cornell Lab of Ornithology out of Cornell University offers several citizen science projects for those who are passionate about helping scientists learn about and conserve birds and their habitats.

<https://www.birds.cornell.edu/citizenscience>



Here are some of the projects; work on them as a class or solo:

- **Celebrate Urban Birds:** Perfect for people living in urban or rural areas, and for both English and Spanish speakers, this project only asks people to learn about their local birds and then watch them for ten minutes a day, two or three times in one week. After you enter your data, you're done. Or you can repeat the process! <https://celebrateurbanbirds.org>
- **eBird:** Spot a bird? Add it to the global map! With this information, scientists can better understand where and when different birds travel. <https://ebird.org>
- **NestWatch:** Learn how to find and monitor nearby nests. The data citizen scientists collect for this project is especially helpful for scientists trying to understand climate change and the effects of humans (like growing cities and developing farmland) on breeding birds. <https://nestwatch.org>
- **Project FeederWatch:** One, two, three . . . Count birds at your feeder from November through April. Winter watching provides excellent data for scientists studying the influence of habitat and disease on birds. <https://feederwatch.org>
- **Great Backyard Bird Count:** This is similar to other Cornell projects, except everyone participates at the exact same time, usually in February. All you have to do is identify and count the birds you see in one spot over one fifteen-minute period; participants can do this once or repeat this every day of the count, if they want. In 2021, the project broke records. More than 300,000 citizen scientists in 190 countries participated. They identified more than 6,000 birds! <https://www.birdcount.org>

DATE:

TIME:

MY BIRDWATCHING SPOT:

NOTES:



[Blue Dot Kids Press](#) inspires curiosity with beautifully crafted stories that connect us to each other and the planet we share. Written and illustrated by impassioned **storytellers and artists from around the world**, our books engage young readers' innate sense of **wonder and empathy**, connecting them to our global community and **the pale blue dot we call home**.

As an **independent, mission-driven**, children's publisher based in San Francisco, California, and Wellington, New Zealand, our **passion for nature and its stewardship** are evident in every book we publish—as well as in our business practices.

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