

**Kindergarten Curriculum Guide Book Summary**

**Book title: *Will You Forgive Me?***

**Author:** Sally Grindley and Penny Dann

**Main characters:** Jefferson Bear and Figgy Twosocks (a fox)

**Other Characters:** Figgy’s brothers Big Smudge and Floppylugs, Hoptail Squirrel, Buncle Badger

**Executive summary:** Two forest friends discover that simply asking for forgiveness is a lot easier than trying to hide the truth.

**Detailed summary:** Jefferson Bear and Figgy Twosocks are best friends. They often share a midnight feast of honey together. One day Figgy’s naughty brothers Big Smudge and Floppylugs find Jefferson Bear’s favorite scratching stick. It has knobs in all right places for Jefferson Bear to scratch himself. Figgy tries to get her brothers to leave the stick alone, but the naughty foxes don’t listen. They take turns throwing it in the air, and then they try to get Figgy to throw it. They tease her and say that Figgy probably “can’t even throw.” Figgy knows it is wrong to throw her friend’s favorite stick, but she doesn’t want her brothers to think she is weak or afraid, so she throws it high in the air. When it comes down it hits Jefferson Bear on the head while he is sleeping in his tree. That wakes the bear. Figgy’s brothers run off with the stick to hide it. Bear comes down from the tree and tells Figgy that something hit him on the head. Figgy pretends that she doesn’t know anything about it. Now that Bear is up, he wants to scratch his back with his favorite scratching stick, which he calls his “tickling stick,” but he can’t find it. Figgy lies and says that she doesn’t know where the stick is. Her ears turn pink and her nose twitches. Bear suspects that Figgy may not be telling the truth. He is angry that he can’t find his stick. Continued on Back

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Figgy runs off to find Bear’s stick. She looks in all the places where her brothers may have hidden it. Hoptail the squirrel suggests that Bear should use a different stick, but Figgy knows that Bear’s tickling stick is his favorite. Hoptail thinks Figgy should tell Jefferson Bear what really happened, but Figgy is afraid that the bear won’t be her friend anymore. She continues to look for the stick. She runs into Jefferson Bear again as he tries to scratch himself on a tree. She has another opportunity to tell the truth, but she doesn’t. She has terrible feelings of embarrassment and guilt.

She runs off again to find the stick. This time she runs into Buncle, the badger, who has found Jefferson Bear’s knobby stick. Figgy tries to get it back, but Buncle won’t give it to her. He wants to trade it for honey. Figgy knows just where to find some honey—in Bear’s tree. Even though she is very, very afraid to climb, she crawls carefully up the tree. She gets dizzy climbing high in the tree. Finally she knocks some honey comb to the ground and a bee stings her. She is stuck in the tree. Jefferson Bear comes home for the night and sees his friend in the tree. He helps her down.

Figgy grabs the honeycomb on the ground and runs off to find Buncle. She gets the stick from Buncle and gives it to Bear. This time she tells Bear what happened. Bear is no longer as angry about losing his stick, and he is actually a little sad that his friend was more afraid to tell him the truth than to climb a tree. Bear forgives Figgy and the two friends go off happily to have a midnight feast together!