



Thinksheet

Rising 2nd Grade

The **Cool Bean** By Jory John and Pete Oswald

Classroom Activities and Literacy Building Links for Planning (see p.2 for more):

[The Cool Bean | Animated Trailer](#)

[The Cool Bean Classroom Activities](#)

[Scholastic The Cool Bean Activity Pages](#)

A “Has Bean” learns that small gestures of kindness are what makes the “Cool Beans” cool, rather than how they look. The main character lacks confidence because he is clumsy and picked last for everything. He thinks he is not cool enough to be their friend. Happily, he learns that it is the kindness they show to others that makes them cool. One by one they used kindness to help him be less embarrassed, upset, and alone. This book opens the door for wonderful conversations about self-esteem, friendship and the importance of showing kindness to others.

- **Before reading, ask:**
 - Are there any cool kids at your school?
 - What makes someone cool?
- **During reading, ask:**
 - Why doesn't Bean hang out with the Cool Beans anymore?
 - Does not hanging out with a friend mean you don't like them?
 - Does changing your outsides make you cool on the inside?
- **After reading, ask:**
 - How did the Cool Beans show they still wanted to be friends with Bean?
 - Have you ever felt like a “Has Bean”?
 - Who helps you feel connected and loved?

Vocabulary for Review

Find each word, re-read it in the sentence, and identify the meaning using context clues in the surrounding text.

- **swagger (p. 3)** walk with confidence and pride
- **slicked (p. 10)** make something smooth
- **common (p. 12)** usual, ordinary
- **loafers (p. 17)** leather shoes with flat heels
- **gesture (p. 22)** an action that shows your feelings



These resources were prepared by GELF's Educator Advisory Council, a group of 28 Tennessee educators, to encourage engagement with the K-3 Home Library books distributed to students over the summer.

Access more resources at BookersBookClub.org/Activities





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Classroom Activities and Literacy Building Links for Planning:

- [About the Author— Jory John; Finding the Humor in \(Spite of\) It All: A Chat with Bestselling Author Jory John](#)
- [About the Illustrator— Pete Oswald; Video on drawing The Bad Seed, The Good Egg, and The Cool Bean](#)
- [*How to Be a Cool Bean* Craftivity](#)
- [Read The Cool Bean to Improve Student Relationships](#)
- [The Cool Bean Companion Activities for School Counseling](#)

Kindness Tic Tac Toe

Students can play with a classmate over time!

Who can get three across vertically, horizontally or diagonally first?

Do a chore without being asked.	Pick up someone else's trash.	Ask someone new to sit with you at lunch.
Give someone a hug or high five.	Tell a friend why they are special.	Clean up someone else's mess.
Use your manners at school or at home.	Donate items or your time to a charity.	Ask someone to play a game at recess.

Enjoy More from this Author and Illustrator:

- [Books by Jory John](#)- Author's Book Page
- [Books by Pete Oswald](#)- Illustrator's Book Page
- [#BNStorytime: Jory John & Pete Oswald read THE COUCH POTATO!](#)



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