

Follow up activity ideas for “The Dot”

You can watch the story again here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Clpw7PG7m1Q>
or here <https://www.tumblebooklibrary.com/Video.aspx?ProductID=4178>

You can find The Dot Song video with the actions here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r_l43cxDQ-o (and with the lyrics but no actions here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ZQMhdYJhsA>)

Talk about the story

Use these suggestions as points to talk about using your communication system. An adult can record the answers following the talk around each question, if you like. (**Adults:** remember to use the communication device, too, to model vocabulary. This will really help your student/child. If you don't know where words are, that's great, you can work together to find them!).

Watch the story again and talk about...

1. Look at Vashti's face in the first few pictures of the book. How do you think she is feeling? How do you know?
2. Look at Vashti's face in the pictures where she is painting all her dots and at the art show, who do you think she feels now? How do you know?
3. Vashti says that she can't draw. Has there ever been a time when you thought that you couldn't do something? How did you overcome it?
4. How can you help others when they don't believe they can do something?
5. What would you like to get better at?
6. By the end of the book, Vashti learns that she is a good artist. What are some things you are good at?
7. This book is dedicated to the author's teacher who dared him to make his mark. How could you 'make your mark'?

Other books to read

ish also by Peter H Reynolds <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rxVSEUZiNWE>

Song for “ish”: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DObm-UOP1Vc>

If you read “ish”, you might like to use a Venn diagram to do a compare and contrast activity looking at the similarities between Vashti and Ramon (the main character in “ish”).

Ten Black Dots by Donald Crews.

Follow this one up with an art activity – what can you make if you start with just one dot?

Writing activities

Use the title “The Dot” as a starting point for your own story.

Write Vashti's diary entry for one of the days shown in the book.

Write about what happens to the boy now that he has signed his own picture.

Draw a picture of Vashti and write words to describe her around the picture. (You could write words that describe her at the beginning of the book on one side, and at the end of the book on the other side.)

Write about whether you like Vashti or not with reasons.

Other activities

Try the word-find with words related to the book here: <https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/word-search/dot-word-search> (NOTE: this may not work on an iPad). You can also download and print the word-find.

Maths activities

Count the number of dots on each page. How many dots in the book altogether?

Art based activities

Do a collaborative dot/circle painting (you could also use chalk to do this on a footpath, tennis court, or other paved area): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d2mHEgOHRbg>.

Use paint with a brush or cotton buds, a stamp pad with cotton buds or a pencil eraser, or art software (like MS Paint, or [ArtRage](#)) to create a 'dotty' picture. Here are some examples and ideas:

- <https://www.scholastic.com/parents/school-success/learning-toolkit-blog/pointillism-kids-painting-dots.html>
- <https://thecraftingchicks.com/easy-pointillism-kids/>
- <http://www.momlearningwithbaby.com/home/easy-pointillism-art-for-kids/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yLuKeZqJ6y0>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DsV1QLQLr3s>

Use markers to colour coffee filters. Spray them with water, dry and display.

Use dot stickers to make a picture, even a mandala, or a word.

