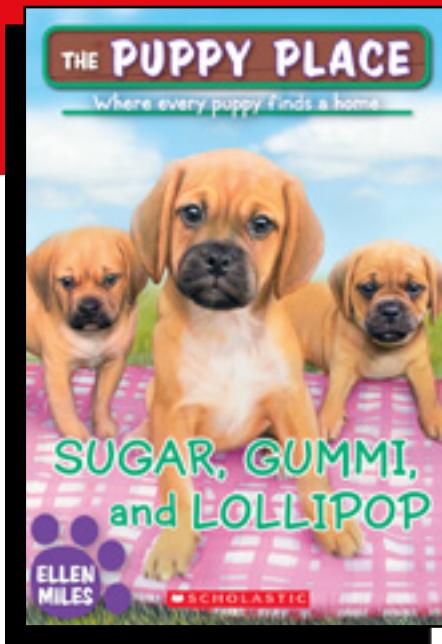


Booktalk!

The Puppy Place #40 Sugar, Gummi, and Lollipop Script

For this Book Talk you will need:

- 3 actors (Gloria, Lizzie, Maria)
- Gloria: pants, t-shirt, hiking boots, grey wig
- Lizzie: shorts, t-shirt, flip-flops
- Maria: short, t-shirt, flip-flops
- Additional props: large basket lined with a bulky blanket, copy of *The Puppy Place: Sugar, Gummi, and Lollipop*



Gloria: (*entering and walking across stage, huffing & puffing, to where Lizzie & Maria are kneeling down, huddled around a large basket*) Boy, Mrs. Packer wasn't kidding when she said your place was back of beyond! (*extending her hand toward the girls*) Gloria. I came about the puppies. (*Lizzie & Maria exchanging glances then standing up & shaking hands with Gloria*)

Lizzie: (*sounding unsure*) Did Mrs. Packer tell you about them?

Gloria: That's right. I make pies, and when I delivered some to her today, she told me you had some pups to get rid of. She said you don't have a phone up here, so I figured I'd just come on up. (*putting hands on her hips & glancing down at the basket*) Well, they're just little things, aren't they?

Maria: They're probably only about seven weeks old. But they all have their own personalities already... (*pausing momentarily*) Are you interested in adopting one of them?

Gloria: Oh, we'll take all three... (*hesitating*) I guess. Stan – that's my husband – wants to try to raise 'em up for hunting rabbits. They ARE part beagle, right? (*squinting as she glances back down at the basket*) They sure don't look it.

☛ *continued on next page...*

Booktalk!

Continued

Lizzie: Well, we THINK they are. But we're not promising anything. They just showed up on our porch.

Gloria: So I heard. So you don't really have any claim on them, exactly.

Lizzie: Well...

Maria: *(interjecting quickly)* I'll go and get my Mom and Dad. *(exiting stage)*

Lizzie: So...your husband knows how to train dogs?

Gloria: *(sighing)* He tries. So far he hasn't had much luck. *(putting her hands on her hips & sounding slightly annoyed)* I swear, he's put enough money into that pen and shock collars and everything. You'd THINK he'd have a few rabbit skins to show for it. But so far, his dogs have been duds. He's hoping for better with these. Anyhow, if it doesn't work out, we can always sell them. My cousin says city people pay BIG money for these so-called *(making air quotes)* "designer dogs".

Lizzie: *(turning to audience)* Hunting dogs? Shock collars? Living outside in the cold? We can't let these sweet little puppies go to the wrong people... Want to know what happens to Sugar, Gummi and Lollipop? *(holding up a copy of* The Puppy Place: Sugar, Gummi, and Lollipop*) Get your copy of the newest* Puppy Place *– at your Scholastic Book Fair!*

