



**BOOK TITLE:** Otis  
**AUTHOR:** Loren Long



**SUMMARY OF BOOK:** Otis, a friendly little tractor, becomes friends with a baby calf in his barn. After a hard day's work, the two enjoy playing games and relaxing. When Otis is replaced by a shiny new yellow tractor, he is put out back of the barn, and the two friends can no longer play together. When the baby calf gets stuck in Mud Pond, who will help?

**\*BEFORE READING** (Ask questions and use what the child already knows to add to the discussion, assisting the child in understanding and enjoying the book):

Try questions such as these:

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Look at the cover of the book together: "Who is Otis? What do you think this book might be about? Why?"</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Page through the book together. "What is the tractor doing? Is he having fun?" "Does everyone look happy at the end? How can you tell?"</li> </ol> |
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**DURING READING** (ask these questions):

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Otis has lots of things he does after a hard day's work. "What are things you do for fun? What do you do for relaxing? What do you do with friends?"</li> <li>2. Try making Otis' sounds or the calf's cries as you read. Have your child make sounds, too.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. "What kind of sounds or things around you help you to fall asleep?"</li> <li>4. "Do you have any old favorite things you prefer to new ones? What do you like about them?"</li> <li>5. "How did Otis feel when he was put behind the barn?"</li> </ol> |
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**AFTER READING** (activity to extend book experience):

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Try to think of other ways Otis or the people might have tried to rescue the calf. If a friend of yours was in a sticky situation, how could you help rescue him?</li> <li>2. Play some of the games Otis and the</li> </ol> | <p>calf did: leapfrog, ring-around-the-rosy. Can you think of others a tractor and a calf could do?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Play "pretend Otis" with a toy truck or tractor.</li> </ol> |
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Compliments of:



\* This activity created by students at the University of Alaska Anchorage.

For additional activities, visit [www.AlaskaimaginationLibrary.org](http://www.AlaskaimaginationLibrary.org).

