



**BOOK TITLE:** *Sylvia Jean, Scout Supreme*  
**AUTHOR:** Lisa Campbell Ernst



**SUMMARY OF BOOK:** A pig named Sylvia Jean is trying to earn a Good-Deed Badge from her Scout troop. She decides to help her neighbor, whose foot is healing. After Sylvia Jean's first, overenthusiastic visit ends in disaster, she's no longer allowed to visit. So she disguises herself and brings her neighbor treats throughout the week.

**\*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:

1. Talk with your child about scouting, about uniforms, troops, scout leaders, merit badges. Relate it to her experience if possible.
2. Talk about what it means to do a good deed. Share some times when your child did a good deed or experienced one.

**DURING READING** (ask these questions):

1. "How would you feel if you were Mrs. VanHooven when Sylvia Jean first visited?" "How would you feel if you were Sylvia Jean and ran into trouble?"
2. "How did Sylvia Jean approach her neighbor the first time? When she came in her disguises?" How would you describe the difference?
3. Consider all the disguises: the costumes, the gifts, their speech. "Which is your favorite? Why?"
4. In what ways does Mrs. VanHooven return Sylvia Jean's good deed, doing some for her?
5. Find interesting words you noticed in the story and repeat them, talking about their meanings (stammered, fragile, hobbled, creaky, sashayed)

**AFTER READING** (activity to extend book experience):

1. Look for opportunities for you and your child to do good deeds, and relate them back to the book – earn Good-Deed Badges!
2. Create a merit badge together for an activity you'd like to do.

Compliments of:



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

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

