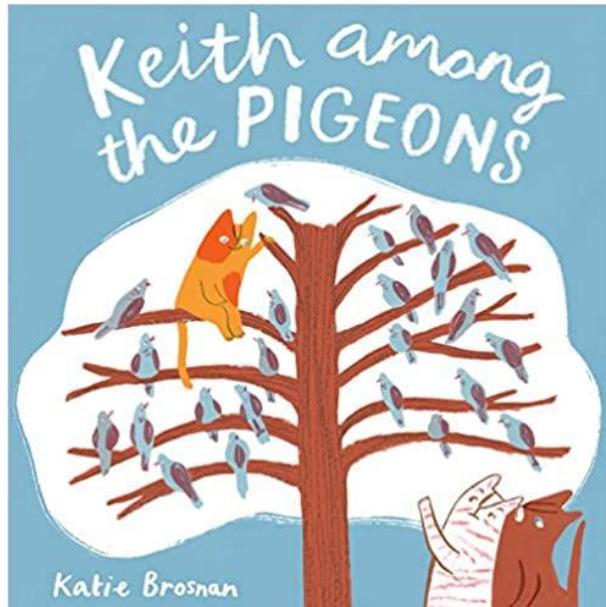


No Outsiders home learning

**Keith among the pigeons by Katie Brosnan**



(2019, Childs play)

<https://www.foyles.co.uk/witem/childrens/keith-among-the-pigeons,katie-brosnan-katie-brosnan-9781786283436?term=keith+among+t>

Blurb:

Keith is a cat, but he'd rather be a pigeon. He loves to watch them and learn their ways, but they won't let him get too close.

Will Keith ever make friends with the pigeons and learn how it feel to be one? Will he ever find out who he really is and feel comfortable just being Keith?

The author Katie Brosnan has kindly read 'Keith among the pigeons' and made it available to watch here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=duVG4uucAJ4>

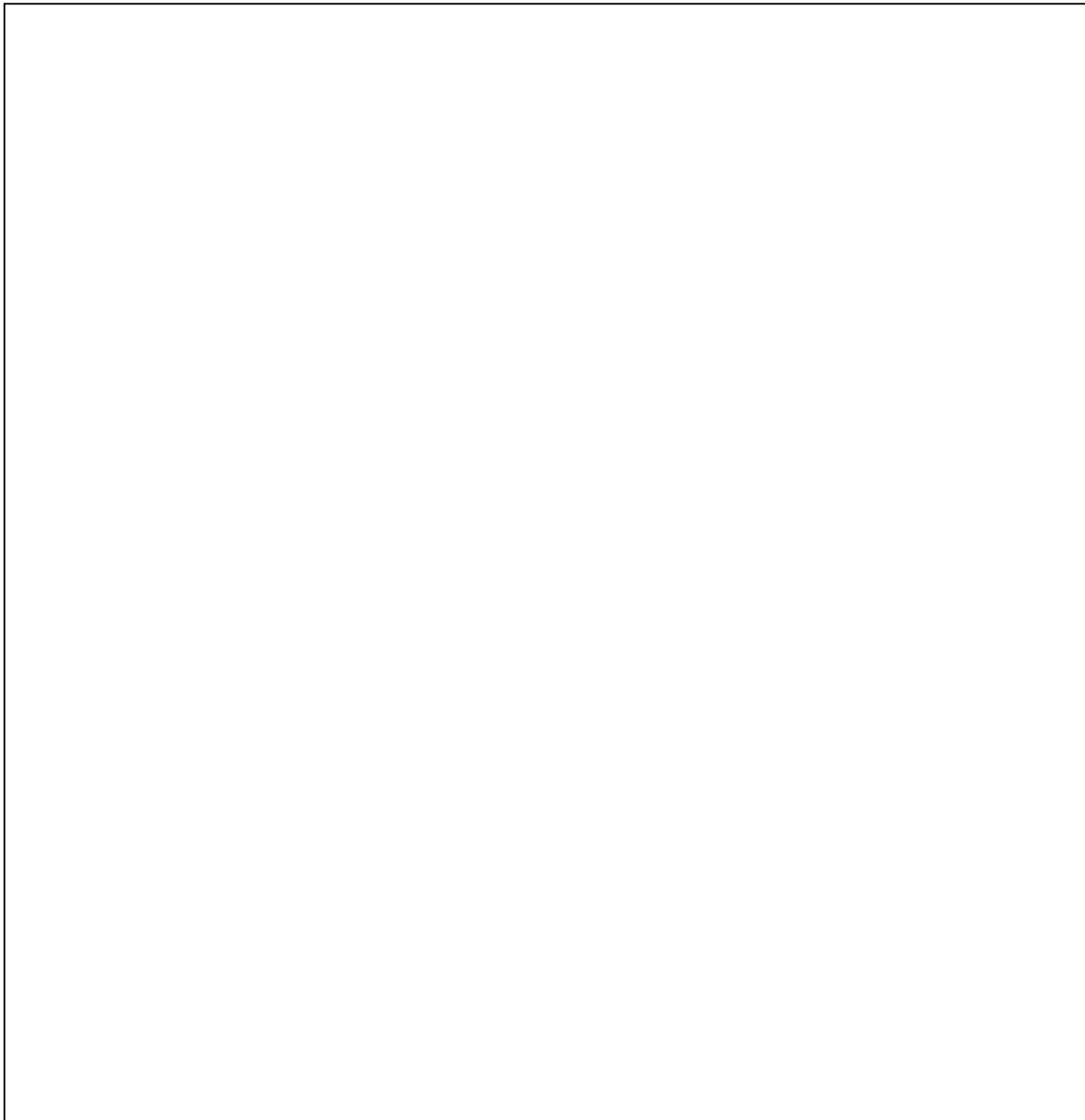
No Outsiders links: learning to accept yourself, learning to accept others, non-judgemental behaviour, tackling prejudice

There are 8 worksheets here, aimed at children across Key Stage 1 and 2.

No Outsiders home learning 1

**Keith among the pigeons by Katie Brosnan**

Look at the front cover of the book and think about the story; why is Keith up a tree with the pigeons? Is he accepted by the pigeons? Do the other cats understand? Draw the book cover below and use speech bubbles to show what the other cats are saying about Keith and the what the pigeons are saying. Show that the cats do not understand and show three or four pigeons answering back; show that the pigeons accept Keith for who he is.

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for the student to draw the book cover and speech bubbles as instructed in the text above.

No Outsiders home learning 2

**Keith among the pigeons by Katie Brosnan**

Keith loves to do lots of things that all cats do, but some activities he does in different ways. In the chart below there are three cat activities. Write a sentence and draw a picture showing the way most cats do each activity and the way Keith does each activity. Show how Keith is different to other cats.

Activity	Other cats	Keith
Taking a nap		
Keeping clean		
Watching the birds		

No Outsiders home learning 3

**Keith among the pigeons by Katie Brosnan**

Look at this page from the story. Why has Keith made these posters? What is he trying to do?



(image taken from 'Keith among the pigeons' by Katie Brosnan, 2019, Child's Play)

Design your own placards for Keith. Think about the message Keith wants to give and the words/ images he can use to make the cats understand.

No Outsiders home learning 4

**Keith among the pigeons by Katie Brosnan**

Listen to the story and answer the following questions:

1. Why do Nigel and Hilda say to Keith, "You're not a proper cat"?

2. How do you think Keith feels when he is told "You're not a proper cat"? Explain your answer.

3. Why do the pigeons make a swift exit every time Keith gets close?

4. Look at the different ways Keith tries to be more pigeon. Why do you think painting feathers on works best at first?

5. Why did the rain make everyone see Keith wasn't a pigeon?

6. Why does Keith start trying to be a proper cat? What does he do and how does it make him feel inside?

7. "It's ok Keith, we always knew you were different." How do you think these words make Keith feel? Explain your answer.

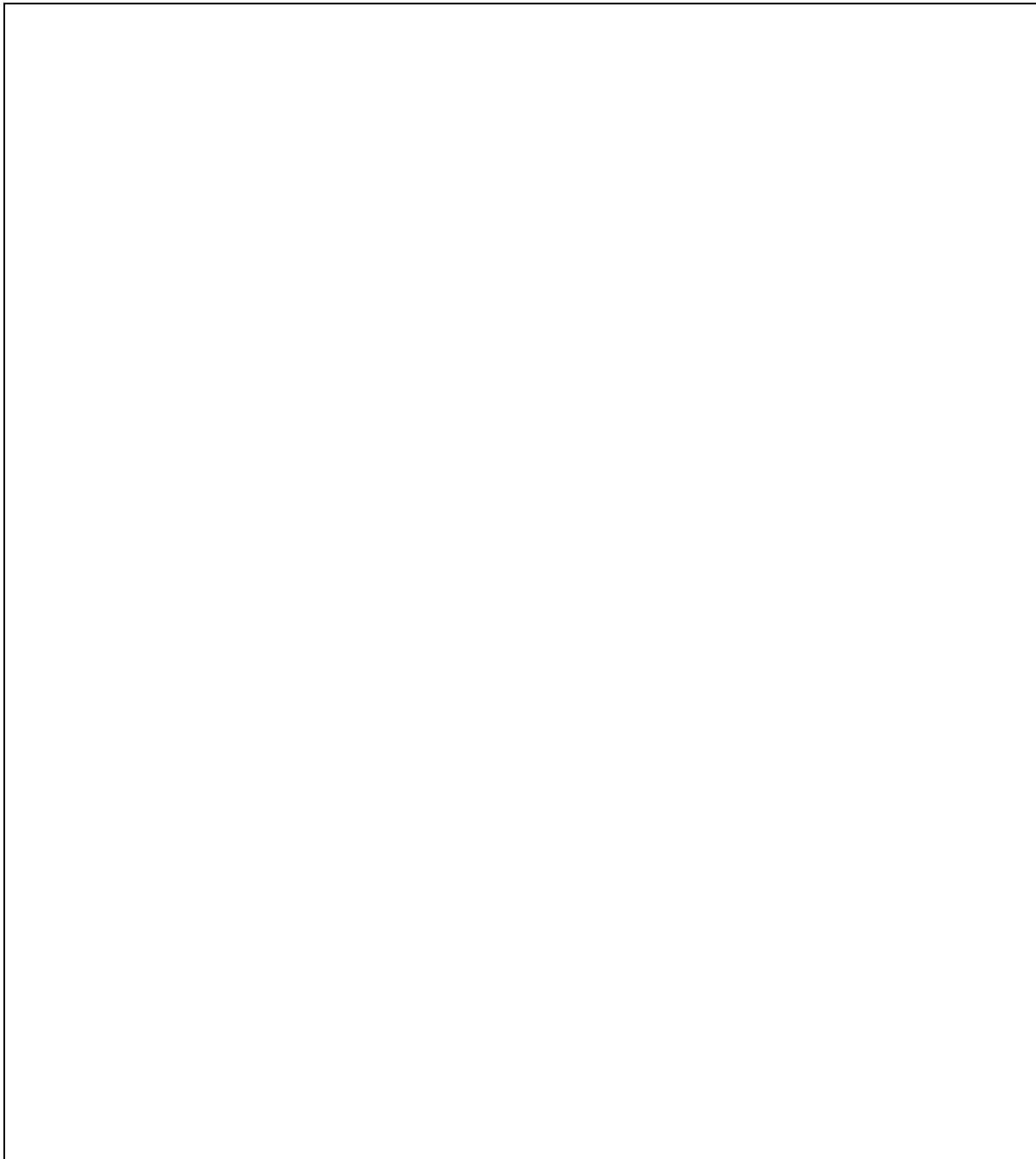
8. "I'm not a cat. I'm not a pigeon. I am Keith." What does this mean? What has Keith learned at the end of the story?

No Outsiders home learning 5

**Keith among the pigeons by Katie Brosnan**

Keith felt different inside. He tried very hard to behave like a cat even though he knew inside he was not like the other cats. The last line of the book shows Keith understands he can just be Keith; he does not have to pretend to be something else, and the pigeons accept him.

Make a poster for Keith. You can use the words from the last page if you want, "I'm not a cat. I'm not a pigeon. I am Keith." Or you might think of your own words.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for students to create a poster for Keith based on the text provided.

No Outsiders home learning 6

**Keith among the pigeons by Katie Brosnan**

Keith thinks no-one will accept him if he does not behave like other cats. In your school, are people allowed to be themselves? Look at the middle of the story where Keith gives up and tries to be more like a cat even though it makes him feel unhappy. Write a letter to Keith giving him advice. Perhaps you could invite him to your school; if he came to your school would he be accepted even though he was different?

Dear Keith,

No Outsiders home learning 7

**Keith among the pigeons by Katie Brosnan**

In this story Keith is told he is not a proper cat. In the middle of the story he tries to be a proper cat by changing his behaviour.

Think about the word “proper” and what it means. Sometimes the word Proper can be used to make people feel like they don’t fit in and have to change. But everyone should know they are accepted even if they are different. You can be you.

Look at this picture; what do you see?



<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-40603065>

This picture shows a lioness in Africa who is raising a leopard cub. The lioness has three cubs of her own but also appears to have adopted the leopard.

People expected the lioness to kill the cub, this was unexpected. It is not something most Lions do.

Why is this picture like the story of Keith among the pigeons?

If this Lioness was in the story instead of Keith, what would the other lions be saying to her?

How do you think the lioness would reply to the other lions if they were saying to her, "Be a proper lion!"

What can we learn from this picture? Why is this picture and the story Keith among the pigeons about No Outsiders?

In your school are children allowed to be different, or does everyone have to be the same? Give examples.

No Outsiders home learning 8

**Keith among the pigeons by Katie Brosnan**

In the story Kevin writes a poem to share his feelings:

**Flapping wings so free,  
It's the pigeon way to be,  
Would they accept me?**

Continue the poem, using the first lines given below; each verse has three lines. Kevin has chosen to make the last word of each line rhyme; see if you can do the same.

**How I wish to fly,**

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**Swooping high and low,**

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**What am I to do?**

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