Help! A Story of Friendship by Holly Keller

Mouse and Snake had been friends for quite some time. That all changed when Mouse heard from the grapevine that snakes are predators of mice. Mouse was now scared of Snake and decided to hide from him. Hedgehog found Mouse hiding and tried to reassure him that Snake would never harm him. Still scared, Hedgehog agreed to walk with Mouse. Trying to keep his mind off of Snake was so difficult that Mouse wasn't able to watch where he was going and he fell into a hole. Injured, Mouse couldn't get out of the hole by himself. Calling on many of their friends for help, each offered a different reason as to why they couldn't help. Snake suddenly appeared and asked what they were all doing. Snake quickly agreed to help but the others animals explained that that was not a good idea. After explaining Mouse's newfound fear of Snake, Snake was confused but wanted to help his friend anyway. Placing a stick into Snake's tail, Snake held onto a tree and gingerly placed the stick into the hole. Mouse grabbed on tight and was pulled to safety. Seeing what Snake had done for him, Mouse felt terrible for thinking Snake would ever harm him. When Mouse had recovered from his injuries, he went over to Snake's home and offered a proper apology and thank you to his friend.

Character Education Values: Loyalty, Friendship, Sincerity

Characters: Mouse, Hedgehog, Rabbit, Squirrel, Snake, Fox, Skunk, Narrators