

# *Tea with Oliver* Classroom Guide and Activities

## Summary

Oliver the cat wishes someone would have tea with him. Philbert is a shy mouse who is trying to get Oliver's attention. Philbert tries many different things but Oliver never notices him. Until one day a crazy cat party brings them face to face.

## About the Author/Illustrator

Mika Song was an animator before she started making picture-books. She grew up in the Philippines and her parents are Japanese-American and Filipino. She lives in Brooklyn with her husband, daughter and a cat named Curry. She studied animation at Pratt Institute and was an animator before becoming a children's illustrator.

## About the book

*Tea with Oliver* is a picture-book for ages 4-8. It received a starred review from Kirkus. It was also an Amazon Best Children's Book of the Month selection. The follow-up, *Picnic with Oliver* [HarperCollins] comes out in summer 2018.

## Pre-Reading Discussion

This is a story about how Oliver the cat and Philbert the mouse become friends. As you read the story think about the different ways Oliver and Philbert try to make friends. Notice why they don't meet at first. When they finally do meet why does it work out? What do the two characters do differently that allows them to meet.

## After Reading

Try performing the book as a play. Don't forget the party cats.