Activities:

1. The Story of my New Friend. *Paddington* is the tale of Paddington’s arrival at the Browns’ home. What stories might you have to tell about the arrival of a new friend, a pet, or a favorite toy? Choose one of your toys, pets, or friends and write about the moment you met him or her. Some moments to consider: the first time you saw each other, what you first said, what you felt or thought when you realized you’d be friends. Make sure to add all the most important details as you tell “The Story of my New Friend.”

2. Instruction Manual For Giving Paddington a Bath. What went wrong during Paddington’s bath time? What might the Browns have done to help Paddington end up clean AND to keep their bathroom floor dry? Brainstorm all the steps someone might take to clean up Paddington. Then write your “Instruction Manual for Giving Paddington a Bath.” Also add helpful—and funny—illustrations to aid your readers.

3. Tale of the Stowaway. Imagine you are Paddington Bear, and you decide to leave Peru as a stowaway. What ship will you travel on? Where will you hide? How will you keep yourself and your marmalade hidden? Once you’ve imagined the answers to these questions, write the tale of how you, as Paddington, hid on a ship with a jar of marmalade, a suitcase, and a note that says “Please look after this bear. Thank You.” Revise and polish your delightful “Tale of the Stowaway.”

4. That’s My Favorite—An Opinion Piece. Reread the story and study the illustrations closely, thinking about all the characters. Then choose your favorite character. What does the character do that makes him or her your favorite? What does he or she say? Maybe there’s something the character wears or carries that makes you like him or her best? After you think of the answers to these questions, write up “That’s My Favorite—An Opinion Piece.” Revise and polish it. Then share it with your classmates.