

What Are You so Grumpy About?

by Tom Lichtenheld

This story is accompanied by hilarious illustrations and funny side comments that make it impossible to be grumpy.



Read

Before:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow that with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, *This book is about things that can make a child grumpy, but the pictures in this book do just the opposite. They make you laugh.* Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an "I wonder" statement based on the cover illustration.

- I wonder if that bird is trying to cheer up this grumpy-looking little boy?

During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions, and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end. Point out "rare words" (e.g., those words that are not commonly used in every day conversation) and help the children relate the meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

Rare Words in *What Are You So Grumpy About*

- notice: to see or catch sight of something
- laundry: dirty clothes that need to be washed
- package: an object boxed in a bundle for mailing
- boring: uninteresting
- chores: a task that has to be done regularly
- weird: odd, strange or unusual
- fragile: easily broken or damaged
- museum: a building where objects of historical importance are displayed
- universe: the earth and space

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- This kid gets up on the wrong side of the bed. Do you know what it means to get up on the wrong side of the bed?
- What do you wear when all of your favorite clothes are in the laundry?
- What are the different kinds of cereals that you have at your house? Do you only eat cereal at breakfast?
- How many of you have chores? What are they?
- How many of you like eating peas and gravy? Is there a particular food you don't like to eat?
- How often do you have to clean your room?

Do

Make a Happy Chart

Talk about all the things that make a person happy. Record the answers on a "Happy Chart" and post it for parents and visitors to read.

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