

DRAGON'S FAT CAT

by Dav Pilkey

The endearing blue Dragon is back in this Caldecott award-winning author's humorous and charming story about friendship and taking care of pets through many silly mishaps.

READ!

Before you read:

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, *How many of you have a pet?* 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 there really are blue dragons?*

While you read:

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 *Dragon's Fat Cat*

- lump: a small irregularly shaped solid mass or piece
- scooped: to pick somebody or something up swiftly
- cozy: warm, comfortable, and snug
- puddles: a shallow pool of water
- smelly: giving off a strong or unpleasant smell
- litter: a dry absorbent substance, that is spread in a shallow container where a pet, especially a cat, can urinate when indoors
- scattered: in a number of different places far away from each other
- flashlight: a small hand-held lamp usually powered by batteries
- crate: a large open sturdy box

After you read:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- In what kind of weather did Dragon find Cat?
- What did Cat look like? Fat? Skinny? What color?
- How did Dragon finally get Cat to come inside?
- What did Dragon do to keep Cat warm and cozy?
- What did Dragon use to make Cat a bed? Where did Cat sleep?
- What were some things that Dragon tried to teach Cat?
- Can you name some foods to feed cats? What did Dragon feed Cat?
- How do inside cats go to the bathroom? Do they use the toilet?
- Who told Dragon that his house stinks? What did mail mouse suggest he do?
- How did Dragon make Cat a litter box? What was wrong with this litter box?
- What type of animal was the sales person at the Pet Store?
- What did Dragon forget at the Pet Store?
- What happened when Dragon went outside to look for Cat?
- How many kittens did Cat have? What did he name them?

**DO!****ASSEMBLE YOUR OWN CAT MASK**

Using paper plates or paper bags along with paper scraps, yarn, crayons, scissors, and paint, design your very own cat mask.