

PUFF THE MAGIC DRAGON

by Peter Yarrow and Lenny Lipton

Celebrate 50 years of Peter Yarrow's beloved children's song, by introducing your young readers to a world filled with gorgeous artwork, a familiar story and a friendly dragon.

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, *What would you do with a dragon?* 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 a dragon came to my neighborhood, would I be scared or excited?*

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 *Puff the Magic Dragon*

- frolicked: act lively and carefree
- autumn: time of season after summer and before winter
- rascal: somebody who behaves mischievously
- sealing wax: a resinous substance that is soft when heated and used for sealing letters, documents, batteries, or jars
- billowed: fill with air and swell outward
- sail: a large piece of strong fabric, fixed by rigging to catch wind on a boat
- perched: a temporary resting place for a person or thing
- noble: belonging or relating to an aristocratic social or political class
- pirate: a robber who operates from a ship on the ocean

After you read:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- Where did Puff the Magic Dragon live?
- What season did Puff frolic in a land called Honalee?
- What did Jackie Paper bring Puff?
- How did Jackie and Puff travel?
- Who did Jackie and Puff visit on their travels?
- Who lowered their flag when Puff roared out his name?
- What happened when Jackie went away?
- Who did Puff meet after Jackie left?

DO!

BAG OF FUN

Jackie brought Puff a bag of toys to play with. What treasures would you collect for a dragon? Draw your own treasure chest or bag filled with special items that all begin with the same digraph. Below is a list of digraphs. Choose your favorites. Don't see something you want, add it to the list. Can you think of any other words to add?

FL-

Flower
Flag
Flippers
Flea
Flapjacks
Flamingo
Floss
Fluffy rug
Fly
Flyswatter (because who likes flies?)
Flashcards

CH-

China doll
Chip
Chain
Cheese
Chicken
Chair
Chess piece
Cherry
Chocolate cake
Chalk
Cheetah

SH-

Shark
Shovel
Shed (to help keep the dragon organized)
Shot put
Sheep
Ship
Shake (as in milkshake!)
Shoe
Shield
Shampoo

WH-

Whale
Whole tomato
Whisker from a cat
Whip
Wheel
Whisk
White sheet

BL-

Blanket
Blackbird
Bleach
Blimp
Block
Blueberry
Bluejay
Blush
Bleachers
Blindfold

FR-

Frog
French horn
Fried potatoes
Fruit
Frozen waffles
Fresh vegetables
Freezer (to store all the food!)

PR-

Present (who doesn't like gifts?)
Pretzel
Princess crown
Prism
Propeller
Prun
Price gun