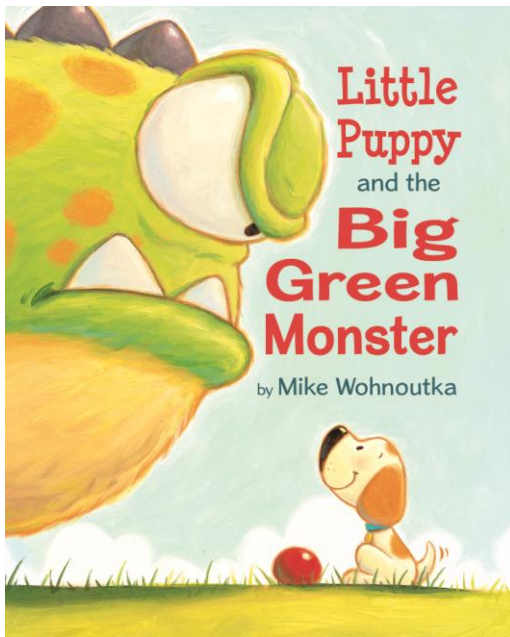


CCSS Adaptability Note

The activities suggested within this Educator's Guide can easily be adapted to conform to the listed Standards in the entire grade range.

Common
Core State
Standards



HC: 978-0-8234-3064-2 / PB: 978-0-8234-3448-0
E-book available

LITTLE PUPPY AND THE BIG GREEN MONSTER

by Mike Wohnoutka

GRADES
PREK–1

About the Book

Big Green Monster has no interest in playing games or in being friends with Little Puppy. But when Little Puppy needs help, Big Green Monster immediately comes to the rescue—and finds that there might just be a place for this tiny dog in his giant heart.

With spare text and irresistible illustrations, Mike Wohnoutka tells the high-spirited story of an unlikely friendship that new readers, and their pals of all sizes, will love.

SUGGESTED CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

Literature/Language Arts

Pre-reading—Before reading the book to kindergarten or first-grade students, have them look at the illustration of the monster that spans the front and back covers and ask if it reminds them of any specific animal, and why. Do they think this monster is scary? Why or why not?

CCSS RL.K-1.7

Title Page—Call students' attention to this page and introduce the words "title" and "author," explaining what each word means. Point out the location of each. Later, have students look at a variety of picture books and identify the titles and authors' names. Remind them that even if they can't read the words, they can locate the *title*, because it is usually in larger print, and the *author*, because it is usually below the title and is usually preceded by the word "by." **CCSS RL.K.6**

Prediction from Illustrations—After noting the illustrations on the first few pages of the story, ask students what they think Little Puppy wanted. How do they know this? **CCSS RL.K-1.7**

Fiction vs. Nonfiction—Ask the students to decide whether the things that happen in this story could every really happen. Do monsters really exist? Do they read books? Do puppies talk? Introduce the words *fiction* and *nonfiction*, and explain that this book is an example of fiction, which means it comes from the author's imagination and could never actually happen. Ask them if they know of any other stories that they believe are also fiction. **CCSS RL.1.5**

Sequence—There are two places in the story where students can be asked to recall the sequence of events: 1) Whom did Little Puppy ask to play with him? a) kids; b) man sleeping in hammock; c) mean dogs; and d) cat. 2) What was the sequence of the games that Little Puppy and Big Green Monster played? a) catch; b) hide & seek; c) tag; and d) having a race. **CCSS RL.K-1.1-3; SL.K-1.2**

Using illustrations to expand the story—Call students' attention to the illustrations on the end papers in the front and back of the book. What do they show? What is the difference between the illustrations *before* the story starts and those *after* the story has been read? **CCSS RL.K-1.7**

Word recognition—There are a few words that are repeated in the story: “play,” “arf,” “too,” “ROAR.” Point out these words to students when they are mentioned the first time, and ask them to look for these words and point them out as you continue to read the story. These words can also be written on a chalkboard or easel pad and reviewed with students. Then go through the book a second time showing only the pictures, and ask them to point out the words when they see them.

CCSS RL.K-1.4

Adjectives—Point out to students that certain words are used to describe something, and that these words are called “adjectives.” Call their attention to the words “busy,” “lazy,” “mean,” and “boring,” and ask students to tell whom or what each of these words describes. Ask students if they can think of other words that describe things or people, then list these on a chalkboard or easel pad. An ongoing list of adjectives can be kept in a visible spot in the classroom, and adjectives can be added to it every time one arises in reading or speaking. **CCSS SL.K-1.4, L.1.1**

Classroom Activities prepared by Sandy Schuckett, school library consultant.



About the Author

Mike Wohnoutka has illustrated many books for children, including *Jack’s House* by Karen Magnuson Beil, honored as a Bank Street College of Education Best Children’s Book, and *Hanukkah Bear* by Eric A. Kimmel, winner of the National Jewish Children’s Book Award in the illustrated children’s book category, the Louis Posner Memorial Award. *Little Puppy and the Big Green Monster* is his first book as author and illustrator. Visit Mike’s website at www.mikewohnoutka.com.

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