



Splat the Cat: Up in the Air at the Fair

By Rob Scotton

GRL I

ABOUT THE BOOK:

Splat, Spike, and Plank are headed to the fair, but when they arrive at Kitten's house to pick her up, Kitten tells them she can't go; she has broken her leg! So Splat and his friends go to the fair and make plans to bring Kitten a gift to make her feel better. But finding Kitten a gift proves to be difficult when all their ideas fail: a hat, éclairs, and winning a bear. However, the trio does find the perfect gift, and Kitten feels better knowing that her friends care so much about her.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Why can't Kitten go to the fair with Splat, Spike, and Plank? What do they bring Kitten from the fair to make her feel better?
2. What is the first tent the friends see when they get to the fair? Why does Splat come out of the tent with spiky hair?
3. Why do Splat, Spike, and Plank decide not to bring Kitten a hat from the fair?
4. What happens to the éclairs the friends buy for Kitten?

The above questions correlate to Common Core State Standards (Reading): RL.1.1, RL.2.1, and RL.3.1; (Speaking & Listening): SL.1.1, SL.2.1, and SL.3.1; SL.1.3, SL.2.3 and SL.3.3.

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES:

Rhyme Time with Splat the Cat: Review with students rhyming words and point out that in the book there are twelve words that end with "-air." Ask them to read the book a second time and make a list of all the words they find that end with "-air." Have students share their lists with a partner to verify that they each found all twelve words. Then have partners add to their list other words that they can think of that end with "-air" or the same sound as "-air." Have students share their additional words with the whole group. *This activity correlates to Common Core State Standards (Reading Literature): RL.1.3, RL.2.3, and RL.3.3;*

A Trip to the Fair: Fairs and carnivals are fun for families to attend. Ask students to write a short narrative about an experience they have had at a carnival or fair and then illustrate their stories. Have students share their stories and illustrations in small groups and then post stories and illustrations in the classroom. *This activity correlates to Common Core State Standards (Writing): W.1.3, W.2.3, and W.3.3; (Language): L.1.1, L.2.1, and L.3.1; L.1.2, L.2.2, and L.3.2.*

Tell Me a Story: With a partner, ask students to retell *Splat the Cat: Up in the Air at the Fair* from the point of view of Splat or one of his friends. Students should be sure to include the lesson they can learn about kindness and friendship from Splat and his friends. Then have students create a stick puppet, paper bag puppet, or sock puppet of the character. Have students use their puppet to tell the character's story. *This activity correlates to Common Core State Standards (Reading Literature): RL.1.2, RL.2.2, and RL.3.2; (Speaking & Listening): SL.1.4, SL.2.4, and SL.3.4.*

Colorful Characters: Each character has definite personality and character traits and feelings about the events in the story. After briefly discussing what personality and character traits mean, ask students to select one of the four characters and to draw a picture of the character on manila paper. Then have students add (1) a quote from the character from the book or a statement about something the character *does* in the book, and (2) a statement that says what the quote or action *tells about the character*. Have students share their character pictures and statements in small groups. Post the character studies in the classroom. *This activity correlates to Common Core State Standards (Reading Literature): RL.1.3, RL.2.3, and RL.3.3; (Writing): W.1.2, W.2.2, and W.3.2; (Language): L.1.1, L.2.1, and L.3.1; L.1.2, L.2.2, and L.3.2.*

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