



Bread and Jam for Frances

By Russell Hoban, pictures by Lillian Hoban

GRL K

ABOUT THE BOOK:

Frances doesn't like eggs, and she doesn't like veal cutlets. All she likes is bread and jam. But when Mother starts to give her bread and jam for every single meal, she starts to feel differently. Will Frances try to eat something else for a change, or will she stick with bread and jam?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What do Frances's food preferences say about her personality? How do they cause her to act? How do they create challenges for her? How does she face these challenges? *Common Core State Standards (Reading: Literature): RL.K.3., RL.1.3., RL.2.3., RL.3.3.*
2. On page 20, Frances says, "There are many different things to eat, and they taste many different ways. But when I have bread and jam I always know what I'm getting, and I'm always pleased." What does she mean by this? Does this stay true throughout the story? Why or why not? *Common Core State Standards (Reading: Literature): RL.K.1., RL.1.1., RL.2.1., RL.3.1.*
3. What do you learn about the setting from the story's illustrations? How do the illustrations show what the words convey? How do they add to what's said or described in the story? *Common Core State Standards (Reading: Literature): RL.K.7., RL.1.7., RL.2.7., RL.3.7.*
4. What does Frances seem to learn from what happens in the story? Use examples to explain your answer. How do you think what she's learned will change how she behaves in the future? Why? How might you also learn from her experiences? *Common Core State Standards (Reading: Literature): RL.K.2., RL.1.2., RL.2.2., RL.3.2.*

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES:

When I Got Tired of My Favorite Thing Comic: Think about a time when you had a favorite thing, like a food, meal, or toy. Why was it your favorite? What did you like best about it? And why did it stop being your favorite? Once you've brainstormed all your ideas, draw a comic that tells the story of your favorite thing, as well as how your feelings changed. Once you finish, hang your When I Got Tired of My Favorite Thing comic where all can read it. *Common Core State Standards (Writing): W.K.3., W.1.3., W.2.3., W.3.3a., W.3.3b., W.3.3c., W.3.3d.*

What's a Great Lunch? With help from your teacher, research your cafeteria's common lunch foods. You could also survey classmates about their favorite lunch foods from home and research these. Research nutrition guidelines and see how the foods most of your classmates eat measure up. Create a poster, multimedia presentation, or writing piece that offers your information, along with recommendations for what's a great lunch if you and your friends need help eating better. *Common Core State Standards (Writing): W.K.2., W.1.2., W.2.2., W.3.2a., W.3.2b., W.3.2c., W.3.2d.*

The Most Fantastic Food Ever: What, in your opinion, is the best food ever? Consider all aspects of the food: taste, texture, smell, the ways you can prepare it, and the ways you can eat it. Also, use examples from your own life to show what makes it fabulous. Then write, dictate, or draw a piece that argues your case—why this is the most fantastic food ever. *Common Core State Standards (Writing): W.K.1., W.1.1., W.2.1., W.3.1a., W.3.1b., W.3.1c., W.3.1d.*

What Words Can Do Poster: Collect words or phrases from Frances's songs that describe feelings or appeal to the senses, as well as rhymes that create rhythms. Also perhaps collect words that have literal and nonliteral meanings. If there are words you don't know, collect those, too. Once you have all these, create a What Words Can Do poster that shows these words and how Frances uses them to express herself so well. *Common Core State Standards (Reading: Literature): RL.K.4., RL.1.4., RL.2.4., RL.3.4.*

Common Core State Standards (Writing) that writing activities might also address: W.K.5., W.1.5., W.2.5., W.3.5., W.K.6., W.1.6., W.2.6., W.3.6.

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