



The Berenstain Bears' New Pup

By Stan & Jan Berenstain

GRL I

ABOUT THE BOOK:

Mama and the cubs go to the farm to get some eggs—and they come home with a new puppy. The puppy is cute and happy and playful. She's also small, so the cubs name her Little Lady. And, as puppies do, Little Lady makes messes and gets into everything. The cubs quickly find out that Mama was right when she told them having a puppy also means having to take care of a puppy!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Mama warns the cubs that puppies are a lot of work. What do the cubs promise to do to help take care of the puppy? *Common Core State Standards (Reading: Literature): RL.K.1., RL.1.1., RL.2.1., RL.3.1.*
2. Describe what the puppies in the barn are doing. Then describe what Little Lady does when the Berenstains take her home. How are the puppies in the barn and the puppy at home the same? How are they different? How are the puppies in this book the same as puppies you've read about in other books? *Common Core State Standards (Reading: Literature): RL.K.1., RL.K.9., RL.1.1., RL.1.9., RL.2.1., RL.3.1.*
3. How do the illustrations help you understand how Mama, Papa, and the cubs feel about Little Lady? How do they feel when they first meet the puppy? How do they feel when Little Lady makes messes? How does Mama feel about having to go back to the farm to get more eggs? *Common Core State Standards (Reading: Literature): RL.K.7., RL.1.7., RL.2.7., RL.3.7.*
4. When Mama first meets the little pup in the barn, the pup looks at Mama, licks Mama's nose, and wags her tail. Then the story says that "Mama's heart melted." What does it mean to have your heart melt? What could make your heart melt? *Common Core State Standards (Language): L.K.4.a., L.1.4.a., L.2.4.a., L.3.5.a.*

Common Core State Standards (Speaking and Listening) that discussions might also address: SL.K.1.a.—b., SL.K.2., SL.K.6., SL.1.1.a.—c., SL.1.2., SL.1.6., SL.2.1.a.—c., SL.2.2., SL.2.6., SL.3.1.a.—d., SL.3.6.

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES:

Pet Care Poster: Mama tells the cubs some of the things they will have to do to take care of a new puppy. What else will the cubs need to do to make sure Little Lady is well taken care of? Use words and drawings to make a pet care poster that would help a new pet owner take care of their new pet. *Common Core State Standards (Writing): W.K.2., W.1.2., W.2.2., W.3.2.a.—d.*

A Letter to the Farmer: Farmer Ben might be wondering how Queenie's little puppy is getting along now that she's living with the Berenstains and not on the farm. Pretend that you are one of the Berenstains: Sister, Brother, Mama, or Papa. Write a letter to Farmer Ben telling him how Little Lady is doing now that she's a member of your family. *Common Core State Standards (Writing): W.K.3., W.1.3., W.2.3., W.3.3.a.—d.*

Animal Names List: A young dog is called a puppy. A young bear is called a cub. Make a list of other animals you know, and then list the word that names that animal baby. If you want to make your list longer, do some research to find out other baby animal names. *Common Core State Standards (Language): L.K.5.a., L.1.5.a.—b., L.2.5., L.3.5.*

Berenstain Bears Book Review: Stan and Jan Berenstain have written and illustrated many books about the Berenstain Bears. Read some other Berenstain Bears books, and then choose the one you like best. Draw a picture from the book, and then write or dictate a paragraph explaining why that book is your favorite. *Common Core State Standards (Reading: Literature): RL.K.9., RL.1.9., RL.3.9.; (Writing): W.K.1., W.1.1., W.2.1., W.3.1.a.—d.*

Common Core State Standards (Writing) that writing activities might also address: W.K.5., W.K.6., W.1.5., W.1.6., W.2.5., W.2.6., W.3.4., W.3.5., W.3.6.

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