



Paddington at the Barber Shop

By Michael Bond

GRL J

ABOUT THE BOOK:

Paddington is happy to help his friend Mr. Gruber fix a broken vase. On the way to get glue, he spots a Help Wanted sign at a barber shop. Paddington gets the job of sweeping up the shop, but he finds himself cutting a customer's hair instead—and he takes most of the man's hair off! But when the angry man spots the old vase, all is forgiven and Mr. Gruber gets a new customer, all because Paddington stopped at the barber shop.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Paddington has an eventful day at two different shops in this story. What shops does he go to? Does this story happen in a town or in the country? How do you know? *Common Core State Standards (Reading: Literature): RL.K.3., RL.1.3., RL.2.1., RL.3.1.*
2. Who are the characters in this book? Which character is the main character? How do the illustrations help you answer that question? *Common Core State Standards (Reading: Literature): RL.K.3., RL.K.7., RL.1.3., RL.1.6., RL.1.7., RL.2.1., RL.2.7., RL.3.3., RL.3.7.*
3. What happened when Paddington tried to cut the man's hair? How does the vase help Paddington solve the problem he caused by giving the man that haircut? *Common Core State Standards (Reading: Literature): RL.K.1., RL.K.3., RL.1.1., RL.1.3., RL.2.1., RL.2.3., RL.3.1., RL.3.3., RL.3.7.*
4. Is this a story that could happen in real life, or is it a story that could only happen in make-believe? Why do you think so? Find some clues in the book that helped you decide on your answer. *Common Core State Standards (Reading: Literature): RL.K.5., RL.1.5., RL.1.7., RL.2.7., RL.3.1.*

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

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES:

Shop Talk: Draw, write, or dictate a list of the things Paddington finds in the barber shop. What are some other things you might find at a barber shop or hair salon? Add those to your list. Then use some of those words to tell a true story or a made-up story about a time when you or someone you know got a haircut. *Common Core State Standards (Reading: Literature): RL.K.1., RL.1.1., RL.2.7., RL.3.1.; (Writing): W.K.8., W.1.8., W.2.8., W.3.8.*

How to Sweep the Floor: Paddington told the barber he was good at sweeping, but then he never got around to doing it. Are you good at sweeping? Write instructions telling someone who has never used a broom how to sweep a floor. Write the steps in order, telling what to do first, second, and so on. *Common Core State Standards (Writing): W.K.2., W.1.2., W.2.2., W.3.2.a-d.*

Paddington the Helper: Do you think Paddington likes to be a helper? How can you tell? Draw a picture of and then write a funny story about Paddington helping in another place, such as your classroom, the zoo, a grocery store, or your home. *Common Core State Standards (Writing): W.K.3., W.1.3., W.2.3., W.3.3.a-d.*

Dear Paddington: There are lots of other books about Paddington, including *Paddington's Prize Picture* and *Paddington Plays On*. Read some of these other Paddington books, and then choose your favorite. Draw a picture from that book, and write or dictate a letter to Paddington explaining why you like that book about him the best. *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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