Gaspard the Fox series

Gaspard Best in Show

Author: Zeb Soanes  
Illustrator: James Mayhew  
Age: 5-7  
Format: Hardback  
Size: 250 x 250mm  
Price: £12.99

Vocabulary

Vulgar  
Crepuscular  
Ludicrous  
Musketeers  
Bellowed  
Outrageous  
Pierces  
Chaos  
Affectionate  
Handsomest

Front cover

Discussion

The cover is what we call the front of the book.
Who can you see on the cover?
What kind of animals do you see?
Where are they?
Whose names are on the cover?
The name of the author and illustrator – what are their names?

Activities

Find out about shows and fairs – is there a local show or fair, what is there to see and do, what competitions would you like to compete in if there was a fair in school?

Inside spread

Discussion

Talk about the text and picture on these pages.
Discuss the place to put your name – why would you do that?
Pages 2 & 3

Discussion
Do you have a radio at home?
What do you like to listen to?
Can you see Peter the cat – where is he?
It is a fine day in the story – what is the weather like here today?

Activities
Make a weather chart that can be changed by placing weather symbols on it – roleplay being a weatherperson and record to show on the interactive whiteboard.

Pages 4 & 5

Discussion
Peter does not like dogs very much.

Do you like dogs? Do you have a dog? What is his/her name?

Pages 6 & 7

Discussion
Gaspard and Peter are off on an adventure to look for Finty the dog.
Where would you go first to try to find someone – what clues would you have to help you?

Activities
Play guessing games by giving clues – eg it is small, it is a toy, it bounces – what is it?

Pages 8 & 9

Discussion
They have arrived at the park – what fun.
Do you enjoy going to the park?
What can you do there?
How many dogs can you count in the picture?

Activities
Decorate some cakes for a bake off competition or make some from playdoh and clay.

Pages 10 & 11

Discussion
Oh dear, was the dog friendly towards Gaspard?

How did Gaspard feel?
Would you feel frightened as well?
Activities

Place lots of materials, scarves, hats, glasses and bags in a box for dressing up activities.

Pages 12 & 13
Discussion
Look at Gaspard – doesn’t he look splendid?
What would you like to dress up as in a fancy dress competition?

Activities
Paint pictures of themselves in their favourite fancy dress costume – it could have a theme.

Pages 14 & 15
Discussion
Gaspard has found Finty.
What do you think of her costume?
Oh dear, Peter was right about what dogs do.
What else can you see in this picture?

Activities
Find out about pirates and musketeers, watch clips of them and describe how they look.

Pages 16 & 17
Discussion
What do you think is happening now?
Can you see the church in the background? There are lots of people watching the show.
Are there more than 10 or less?

Activities
Make a pattern collage using the same pattern but in different colours or swap patterns on things, for example, a flowery zebra a starry giraffe.

Pages 18 & 19
Discussion
What is your favourite part on these pages?
Do you see the patterns – stripes, flowery.
Pages 20 & 21
Discussion
Gaspard and Finty are play acting.
The crowd are amazed how clever they are.
What are you good at doing?

Activities
Create a celebration wall with pictures of the children doing things they are proud of at home or in school.

Pages 22 & 23
Discussion
Hurray! Gaspard has won the competition.
What other competitions can you think of? Sports, drawing, cooking, baking.

Pages 24 & 25
Discussion
The bouncy castle has popped like a giant balloon.
Why did it make the whooshing noise? What is inside it?

Activities
Play balloon games outdoors – keep the balloon in the air/pass the balloon with chopsticks.

Pages 26 & 27
Discussion
What is happening now?
Are they having a race?
There are lots of dogs – how many do you see?

Pages 28 & 29
Discussion
Look at themes – what is happening to Peter?
Do you think the people will be angry?

Activities
Think about being a good friend. Write on some tags what things you could do to be a good friend and tie them to your friendship branch or tree.
**Pages 30 & 31**

**Discussion**

Gaspard had his rosette again.
Have you won anything in a competition?
What was it?
What did you do to win it?

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**Pages 32 & 33**

**Discussion**

Find out about the author and illustrator.
Learn about the fox’s year and the musketeers.

**Activities**

Create a small world imaginative play area in a tough tray. Fill it with leaves and mosses in one half and buildings and roads in the other. Add in woodland animals, pets and people and create new stories.

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**Back cover**

**Discussion**

Talk about the information on the back cover.

Explain the ISBN number.

What was your favourite part of the book?

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**GASPARD THE FOX SERIES:**

- **Gaspard the Fox**
  ISBN 9781912213542 (hardback)
  ISBN 9781912050062 (paperback)

- **Gaspard: Best in Show**
  ISBN 9781912654673

- **Gaspard’s Foxtrot**
  ISBN 9781913134808

- **Gaspard’s Christmas**
  ISBN 9781913134846

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