Rita series

Rita wants a Dragon

Author: Máire Zepf
Illustrator: Andrew Whitson
Age: 3-5
Format: Paperback
Language: English
Size: 250 x 250mm
Price: £7.99

Vocabulary

Dragon
Roar
Stomping
Breathing
Thrash
Shudder
Cool

Front cover

Discussion
Who do you see on the cover?
What do we call this creature?
Let’s read the title.
The name of the author and the illustrator is on the cover.
What time of year is it?

Activities
Look for books and objects that have dragons on/in them.

Inside spread

Discussion
What do you see?
How many trees can you count?

Activities
Look at the trees outside – how do they compare?
Make bark rubbings or place Play-Doh on the bark to make imprints.
Dedication

Discussion
This book is dedicated to Sam and Miriam and Sean and Maire. What would you dedicate to a friend?

Activities
Create a snowy white world in the water trough.

Pages 4 & 5

Discussion
What can you see?
Is he bigger than Rita?
Describe the snowman.

Activities
Look for other snow and ice sculptures on YouTube.

Pages 6 & 7

Discussion
Oh no! What’s happened?
Do you like sledging?
Who has ruined the snowman?

Activities
Play a slide the bean bag into the hoop game in the hall.

Pages 8 & 9

Discussion
How is everyone feeling in the picture?
Why?

Activities
Talk about feelings and make a collage from magazine pictures – happy, sad, angry etc.

Pages 10 & 11

Discussion
What is on the left side of the book?
What is on the right-hand side?
What name would you give the dragon?
Pages 12 & 13
Discussion
Does the dragon look happy?
How does Mum look?
Would you be happy if you saw a dragon?
Activities
Play Simon Says – look sad, happy, excited.

Pages 14 & 15
Discussion
The dragon is roaring.
Would that be a quiet or a loud noise?
Make sounds like different animals.
Activities
Learn a song about a dragon.

Pages 16 & 17
Discussion
Can you see the flames?
Flames are fire – it is dangerous.
How would you feel now?
Activities
Create paintings using flame colours.

Pages 18 & 19
Discussion
The dragon is stomping.
What other creatures and animals stomp?
Activities
Practice different movements like dragons and dinosaurs.

Pages 20 & 21
Discussion
What is wrong with the dragon?
Is he unwell? Is he tired?
Activities
Play word games – I’m happy when...
I’m frightened when...
Or a circle time activity.
Pages 22, 23, 24 & 25
Discussion
Would you like to fly?
Where would you go if you could fly?
Activities
Pretend you are the wind and tell your story of where you have been today.

Pages 26 & 27
Discussion
Can you see the stars in the sky?
Where is Rita?
Where are they going?
Activities
Listen to day and night sounds and try to name them.

Pages 28 & 29
Discussion
What has Rita found?
Activities
Create a reading cave indoors or outdoors to enjoy reading books.

Pages 30 & 31
Discussion
They are in the cave.
What do they need?
How do you light your room at home?
Activities
Investigate lights – when and where do we use them?

Pages 32 & 33
Discussion
The dragon has made a fire to keep warm.
What else do we use to keep warm?
Activities
Invite the fire service to talk to the children about their work and safety.
Pages 34 & 35
Discussion
Would you like to make a den?
What would you do inside?

Pages 36 & 37
Discussion
How does it feel to have a cwtsh/cuddle?
Whose cuddles are the best?

Pages 38 & 39
Discussion
Who does Rita enjoy cuddling?
Who else can you see in the picture?

Back cover
Discussion
What can you see on the back cover?
The blurb is a short description of the story.
What else can you see?
Activities
Look for other books Graffeg have published and create a display.

RITA SERIES:
Rita wants a Witch
ISBN 9781802580402
Rita wants a Robot
ISBN 9781914079672
Rita wants a Ninja
ISBN 9781802580464
Rita wants a Fairy Godmother
ISBN 9781802580440
Rita wants a Dragon
ISBN 9781914079665
Rita wants a Genie
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