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Lisa Wheeler, Heather M. Solomon (Illustrator)

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Ol' Bear wakes one morning with a hankering for Ugly Pie, so he goes on a search from neighbor to neighbor. All he finds are pies that please the eye and . . . ingredients? Wait a second. Maybe it's time for Ol' Bear to start cookin' up something ugly himself! Ol' Bear shares that Ugly Pie with his generous neighbors—and he shares his secret recipe, too, in the back of this book.

Lisa Wheeler's story is a joy to read aloud and some parts just beg to be sung. Heather Solomon's illustrations aren't the least bit ugly, but full of lovely details and charming bears with big ol' appetites for pie.

Ugly Pie Details

Date : Published July 12th 2010 by HMH Books for Young Readers

ISBN : 9780152167547

Author : Lisa Wheeler , Heather M. Solomon (Illustrator)

Format : Hardcover 32 pages

Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Animals, Food and Drink, Food

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From Reader Review Ugly Pie for online ebook

Jennifer says

I used this book during a food-themed storytime for Head Start preschoolers (aged 3-5). Normally I wouldn't use a book that is as long to read aloud (~5 minutes), because my kids generally just don't have the attention span to sit through a story that long, but I really loved the story so I took a chance on reading it anyway. I would say out of the 4 books I read in total, this was the biggest hit, despite it's length. My favorite part of the story is the lyrical nature of the text; it is really a pleasure to read and to listen to. The story is about Bear who has a hankering for pie, but not just any pie- Ugly Pie! Unfortunately, he only has ugly molasses, so he visits his friends/relatives for additional ingredients. I will definitely be using this in future storytimes.

Pam says

Bear has a yen to eat some Ugly Pie. He sets out to visit his neighbors and they each give him some ugly food they have. He gets home and makes the most beautiful Ugly Pie ever and is thrilled to share it with everyone. Fun rhyming text.

Cindy says

Audience: Primary ages 4-8

Genre: Fiction

Format: Picture Book

Pre-Reading Strategy: Visual Imagery

I like this strategy because it encourages the students to visualize what is being read as they look at the pictures and hear the words. It helps the students to live the book. The visual imagery strategy also allows students to process what is being read by pausing and thinking about what they read.

I would begin reading the first page of the book, and then stop to discuss what is going on in the picture and what words stick out to them. (Ugly Pie, kitchen, molasses, hankerin')

We would then use that information to create a prediction of what may happen in the story. Continue reading until Ol'Bear visits Grampa Grizzle's house. Discuss any new images that come to mind about Ugly Pie or what we can see, hear, feel, touch and taste from the passage. Begin reading again and this time read further into the book stopping after Ol'Bear visits Sweet Cicely. Discuss what is happening in the story along with what they can see, hear, feel, touch, and taste from the passage. Continue reading until the end of the story. Ask the students What was in Ugly Pie? If they could make an Ugly Pie what would it taste like? What ingredients would they like to put in their pie?

There is a recipe in the back of the book for Ugly Pie. I would make the pie and let the students experience what Ugly Pie tastes like and see if they too have a hankerin' for Ugly Pie.

Reference: Visual imagery. (2013, July 6). Retrieved from <http://www.readingrockets.org/strateg...>

Vanessa Kirk says

Audience: The audience in this book is Primary elementary students. I would say anywhere from first through third grade students would love this book.

Appeal: I think this book would best appeal to students from first through third grade because it is a very fun book. It involves adventure to different houses along with baking fun pies. I know they would love the recipe given at the end of the book to make an ugly pie. I could give them the recipe to take home to bake a pie with their parents.

Application: Depending on the grade, I could use this book to go over measuring by using the recipe in the back of the book. I also could teach the kids that it is okay to ask for things when you don't have them, and it is great to share with those around you. The bear asked his neighbors for some ugly pie and in return they gave him different ingredients like raisins, apples, walnuts, etc. He then decided to make the pie and share it with all of his neighbors.

Award List: Nebraska Golden Sower Award

Copyright: 2010

Amber says

"If you love to eat pie, give me a belly rub and say "My-oh-my." Well, Ol' Bear loves pie too, but today he is in the mood for a special pie. Raise your hand if you have a favorite kind of pie. We are going to make a graph of everyone's favorite pie. I will start with apple pie, if your favorite pie is apple pie raise your hand. Next, cherry pie, who loves cherry pie? I love cherry pie, so I'm going to add Mrs. Pekarsky to the cherry list. Raise your hand if you like pumpkin pie? If your favorite pie is not on the list raise your hand and I will add it on. Wow! It looks like the majority of the class likes_____ pie. Now, who is curious about what kind of pie Ol' Bear is searching for? (Show front cover of book) Ol' Bear is looking for some "Ugly Pie." Raise your hand if you have ever heard of ugly pie. I sure haven't heard of ugly pie, but now I want to know what it is. Let's get started, while I'm reading I want you to listen for the ingredients in the "Ugly Pie."

First, I engaged the students by asking them to rub their bellies and say "My-oh-my," which is a phrase that Ol' bear uses throughout the book. Next, I introduced the main character Ol' bear and the students already had a connection with Ol' Bear (loving pie). Next, I would make a smart chart of a simple graph reflecting the class' favorite types of pie. Then I would share with them Ol' Bear's favorite type of pie, and ask if the students like Ugly pie. Lastly, I would set the purpose for reading, which is to listen for the ingredients that are used in Ol' Bear's Ugly Pie.

Michaela says

Audience: Primary

Genre: Picture Book-Fantasy

Pre-Reading Strategy: Shared Reading

Okay, Class. Today we are going to be reading "Ugly Pie" by Lisa Wheeler and illustrated by Heather Solomon. Before we start let's take a look at the cover. Does anyone have any idea what this story is going to be about? What do you think "Ugly Pie" means?

Read story aloud

Pg. 1 Does anyone know what "hankerin'" means? Do you think Ol' Bear is going to make a pie? What kind of pie?

Pg. 2-3 What do you think is in ugly pie? Who's house are they at? Does he have any ugly pie? What kind of pie do you think Grampa has?

Pg. 4-5 What ingredients does Ol' Bear have so far? Did Ol' Bear want the pumpkin pie?

Pg. 6-7 Now where is Ol' Bear? Do you think she will have ugly pie?

Pg. 8-9 What type of pie did Ma Hickory have? Did Ol' Bear want that? What did Ma Hickory give Ol' Bear? What all does he have now?

Pg. 10-11 Now who's house is Ol' Bear at? Any ugly pie there?

Pg. 12-13 What type of pie did Sweet Cicely have? What ugly thing did Sweet Cicely give Ol' Bear? Can you name all the ingredients Ol' Bear has now?

Pg. 14-15 Oh no..Do you think Ol' Bear will get his ugly pie?

Pg. 16-17 Can Ol' Bear do anything with all his ugly things? What do you think his idea is?

Pg. 18-19 What's he going to do?!

Pg. 20-21 Did he get his ugly pie?

Pg. 22-23 Who all showed up? Where have we seen them before? What do they smell?

Pg. 24-25 What did all those neighbors do? What was in the pie? Who made the pie?

Pg. 26-27 Does ugly pie sound very ugly? Would you eat ugly pie?

after reading

Did you guys like this book? What was your favorite part? How did Ol' Bear make his ugly pie?
Do you have any questions?

Have any of you made a pie before? What about ugly pie?

Have you ever been in a similar situation? If so what?

Can any of you tell me what happened in this story in your own words?

Reread story and/or independent reading

Pg. 1

Kathleen Ferrel says

Children grades 1st through 5th will get a thrill when reading this creative story about a bear in search of "Ugly Pie". Younger elementary grades will love the repetition of each pie that is introduced to the bear as he searches for his Ugly Pie. Children will also enjoy singing along with the bear as he chants songs throughout the book in search of his Ugly Pie. This book will guarantee anyone who reads it a great adventure! Ugly Pie

Erin says

Ugly Pie by Lisa Wheeler is a truly wonderful fantasy book about Ol' Bear who is just itchin' for some pie-ugly pie that is! The main character is Ol' Bear and his hankerin' for ugly pie has gotten the best of him. He travels around the forest asking his friends and family if they have any ugly pie. But each must attest that they do not have ugly pie. Rather, each friend has some ugly old ingredient that they pass on to Ol' Bear. Ol' Bear accepts the gifts, but when he gets home and empties the contents of his bag on the table, he's disappointed that he didn't run across any ugly pie, not even a sliver of it. In fact, all he has are wrinkled raisins, some walnuts, and sour apples- yuck! But Ol' Bear is also a smart bear. He is wise and clever, and he devises a stupendous plan to satisfy his hankerin' for ugly pie.

Like I mentioned, Ol' Bear is the main character of Ugly Pie and he is the sweetest bear that any child could ever imagine meeting. When each of his friends denies that they have ugly pie, Ol' Bear is polite and accepts their response. He doesn't complain or whine that no one can help him. When his bear friends offer him their ugly old ingredients, Ol' Bear shows some respect and accepts them, even though they were ugly and old. Finally, when Ol' Bear gets home, we see that he is ever so smart. He can whip up a plan in no time, and in the final scene of the story, we see Ol' Bear being kind and caring toward his family and friends.

The setting of this story takes place in the forest that is home to all of the bears. The writing of this story does not explain the setting well at all, but the pictures show us great detail! The illustrator of this picture book is Heather Solomon and her creations show us exactly what Ol' Bear is thinking and doing at every moment of the story. I really liked the illustrations of this book. Solomon's artwork engages the children throughout the story by sharing details of Ol' Bear's home, his forest, his bear friends, and his other forest friends. The illustrations really add to the story, but I must give credit back to Wheeler for her writing. Ol' Bear is constantly on the move in search for ugly pie, and each time he travels he sings a song. Though the lyrics change each time, a familiar tune can be added to the words that also keep the readers engaged. There is familiarity in the story that lets young readers keep up with the pace of the story.

Beyond my absolute adoration for Ol' Bear's character and zeal for ugly pie, I love his country "accent." There is no one "voice" of the book because each character speaks at different times and the narrator is the voice of the reader; however, all of the words have that country vibe to them. For example, "'That sure is one plump and pleasin' pie,' Ol' Bear said. 'But I'm just itchin'-truly itchin'- for some ugly pie'" (Wheeler, 5). This voice that the story is read in adds a lot of flair and character to the book.

Ugly Pie can be purchased on Amazon for \$6.80 and is appropriate for children ages 3-6. It was published by the Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company in 2010, and its ISBN is 978-0-15-216754-7. I would recommend this book for parents of young children; teachers who want to teach about recipes (provided in the back), alliteration, or rhyme; and to young readers who want a sing-along book to motivate their reading

experiences.

Liz Todd says

Another book that is just begging for music to be added! Sweet little story but I really loved the recipe at the end. :)

Ashley Steffen says

Audience: This book could be read to boys or girls. Since there is a recipe to make in the back, it could be good to use to show boys that they can bake, too. This would probably be best to read to first or second grade children. The story line is pretty simple and easy for young students to follow along.

Appeal: This book has rhyming throughout and a "sing-song" flow to it. It's very colorful and the drawings in it are humorous for children.

Application: I could use this book to introduce the students to new vocabulary. There are words like aroma, sigh, and ruby that students may not know yet. Also, the way the characters in this book talk is different than the typical way of writing. We could discuss how the apostrophe is used to show abbreviations and different dialects or ways to read the story. If we had the resources, we could also have an activity of making the recipe for ugly pie in the back of the book.

This book is from the 2012-2013 Nebraska Golden Sower Awards List.

Rosa Cline says

I couldn't help but fall in love with this book as I read it out loud to my adult special needs son. He liked it as well. It caught his attention and kept it throughout the book. The illustrations were just as great.

Bear had a craving for a certain pie and went to his neighbors each neighbor gave him something out of their kitchen and when he got home he made his 'ugly' pie that he was craving. And at the back of the book they give you the recipe so you can make that same pie.

Devan says

Summary:

Critique: A bear have a big craving for ugly pie, but he does not have the ingredients for it. He goes around to his neighbors to see if any of them have ugly pie. They do not, but they each give him an ugly ingredient. When he goes back home he realizes he has enough ingredients to make ugly pie, so he does. All his friends show up and the bear shares the pie with all of them.

Critique:

This story takes items that people associate with good and yummy and calls it ugly. It's ironic humor is shown throughout the book as he gathers molasses, raisins, apples and walnuts. All of those are considered good by many but this story calls them ugly, which is then baked into an ugly pie. This illustrations in this

story were fun and showed the action helping the reader to visualize the story. The illustrations also showed the humor in the story - calling those foods ugly. The text was very descriptive and said things in a humorous was, just adding to the humor the title and images have already brought. The story was enjoyable and would be a great thing to read to children to teach them about irony. I particularly enjoyed that the author included a recipe for ugly pie at the back of the book. The recipe called for the same ingredients bear used, so you would get to eat what bear ate.

Teaching Ideas:

Making something good out of something bad.

When you need something look around you and see what you can find.

Wheeler, L. (2010). *Ugly pie*. Boston, MA: Harcourt Children's Books.

Peggy Gay says

Audience: primary

Genre: Fantasy picture book

Per-reading strategy: Word Wall. I would use this strategy because the story has many good vocabulary words and repeats them offering practice. Also there are several slang phrases to investigate, phrases like "hitch of his britches" "Ol' Bear" and "I'm just itchin' - truly itchin' for some Ugly Pie".

Start out with five words on a wall or blank space. I would begin with Pie, Kitchen, Hope, Walked and Sniff. Before reading discuss the words with the class. Then give each student a card so they may choose a word from the story to add to the word wall.

Jimmy B Grande says

This story took me back to my childhood. I had a distant uncle who we would visit and he would make what he called ugly soup. He didn't go collecting from the neighbors but he would look to see what he had in his kitchen and it all basically ended up in a pot. Before we knew it we were eating soup. It was always pretty good soup and never the same twice. His "ugly soup".

Melki says

How do you handle a hungry bear?

Give him the ingredients to make his own pie, apparently.

Meh - the story and artwork are only so-so, HOWEVER, the recipe at the back of the book sounds yummy.

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