



Good Little Wolf

Nadia Shireen

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Once upon a time there was a wolf called Rolf - a good little wolf who liked baking cakes and was always kind to his friends. But real wolves aren't supposed to be good - they're supposed to be BIG and BAD.

Can a good little wolf still be a real wolf?

And will Rolf discover there's something big and bad lurking inside him after all?

Good Little Wolf Details

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Author : Nadia Shireen

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From Reader Review Good Little Wolf for online ebook

nova ryder ♥ says

well... let's just say I wasn't really expecting that assumed ending.

Adele Last says

The Good Little Wolf by Nadia Shireen is a story about a young wolf that prefers to eat vegetables rather than grandmothers. After a discussion with his grandmother, the Good Little Wolf goes for a walk in the woods and he meets the Big Bad Wolf. The Big Bad Wolf attempts to teach the Good Little Wolf how to be a 'proper' wolf. He tells him he should blow houses down, eat grandmothers and howl at the moon. The Good Little Wolf tries to be 'proper' wolf but instead of howling the Good Little Wolf whistles and he couldn't blow the little piggy's house down. When the Big Bad Wolf tells the Good Little Wolf to eat his grandmother, the Good Little Wolf ties the Big Bad Wolf up in his grandmother's pink wool and claims he's already a proper wolf.

The Big Bad Wolf promises that he will stop eating people... tomorrow.

I particularly like this book; firstly because of the varying images included in the book. These illustrations form part of the story in instances when the text is not present. This allows the children to decide what happens in the story for themselves; this creates different possibilities. In addition, the story links to other tales such as the 3 Little Pigs and Red Riding Hood. This allows the reader to relate to the story, making it more accessible.

This story also has an ending that is open to interpretation from the reader. As the text is not present, the reader can decide what the picture illustrates. This leads to a possible sequence of lessons within a class for a writing lesson.

Within this sequence of the lessons, appropriate for Year 2 children and possibly younger children, the teacher could begin with reading the story to the class and making predictions as they go along. The second lesson could involve recapping the story and creating a story map in order for the children to consolidate their understanding of the story. The next lesson could involve role-play using props, again to enhance their understanding of the story. Next in the sequence could include a trip to the Zoo in order to see the wolves in reality so that the children have something to relate to and it gives the tale a purpose.

The next part of the sequence could include discussing the trip to the zoo, focusing on the wolves and creating a spider diagram of adjectives that the children have collectively thought of to describe the wolves. Next, would be some independent writing using the adjectives that the class had collected. These could be simple sentences to increase their knowledge of the animal and give the story a foundation. The next lesson could, again, involve role-play in the form of hot seating. This would involve the children talking with their partners to think of some questions that they would like to ask the wolf.

Next, they children could draw pictures of the characters and label them with how the character may be feeling during the story or additional adjectives. Lesson nine could use the story as a foundation for learning about story conventions such as 'once upon a time'. This lesson could also use the other fairytales the story relates to as further evidence. Lesson ten could focus on the different endings that the children believe could happen as the story ends on a cliff-hanger letting the reader decide for themselves.

Towards the end of the sequence of lessons the children could discuss what happens next in terms of discussing if the wolf kept his promise to stop eating people or not. The teacher could begin this by instigating shared writing, showing vocabulary tables to improve the children's sentences. This could lead to independent writing; this could lead to the children writing their own stories and making them into books

which could be placed in the book corner or made into 'big books'. This will ensure that the children are able to use their stories after they are finished.

Ruby Patel says

A common story of a wolf, with a twist! As opposed to the classic idea of the Big bad wolf taking centre stage, this time round it's a good little wolfs time to shine... I feel this story develops children's perceptions the classic snarly wolf character in a different context. This small wolf is rather content with being good but when a Big bad wolf appears to try and squeeze the bad out of him our little wolf rebels and ties up the big bad wolf with wool! But this does not last long and good little wolf shows his lovely side by letting him go and inviting him for a nice cup of tea with himself and Mrs. Boggins! However this is not the end and there is an unexpected twist which ends the story rather suddenly and sadly (I didn't see it coming)!

I have used this book with 4 years olds where we have discussed the meaning of being good to each other - many children decided they can be good AND bad sometimes thus relating themselves to both characters from the story.

Cat says

Ha! This was a great twisted fairy tale that I am sure children will enjoy! I did not see the ending coming at all and it just cracked me up laughing! Very funny tale!

Louise says

This book shows how the little wolf has broken the big bad wolf stereotype as he is lives with Grandma and is loved by many. This stereotype is highlight when he meets the big bad wolf who is shocked to why the wolf is so nice. So the little wolf tries to prove that not all wolves have to be big and mean and tries to make the big bad wolf into a good wolf, but does not go to plan as he eventually eats grandma.

I would advise this book to be used in a KS1 or Lower KS2 class as it uses the familiar character of the Big Bad Wolf and turns that on its head which would interest a younger class. The break of the stereotype in this book would be a good introduction to beginning writing and creating their own characters, trying to get children to think out of the box about their characters characteristics.

Adam says

The 'Good Little Wolf' is a picture book story about a Little Wolf who enjoys doing good things. Whilst walking through a wood, 'Rolf' (The good little wolf) runs into the Big Bad wolf. The Big Bad Wolf provokes Rolf into trying to prove that he is a real wolf. Rolf, trying to prove he is a wolf, attempts to blow down the little pigs house and howl at the moon. Rolf doesn't succeed and ends up taking the Big Bad Wolf

back to Mrs Boggin's house to try and show him the error of his ways.

This story is an interesting twist on the original story of the Big Bad Wolf and the Three Little Pigs. However, it does not have the usual happy ending of most other children's story books. What this book does very well however, is challenge the typical stereotypes of society. Because of this, this book can be used for any age range within the classroom environment. It can act as a catalyst for writing activities concerning stereotypes and children's attitudes towards them.

Akua D says

It is a good twist to the traditional story of the Big, Bad Wolf. The story is about a wolf called Rolf who does not live up to the stereotype of being a bad wolf as he didn't eat people and blow houses down. He met a Big, Bad Wolf who challenged him to check if he was a real wolf and whether he can be a big bad wolf. Rolf was terrible and failed all the challenges! But when he was asked to eat his best friend, Mrs Boggins the wolf in him came out and he attacked the Big, Bad Wolf.

I found this book really funny and it has a great moral about being yourself and not living up to the stereotypes. This book is suitable for KS1 class to read and EYFS. It could be used in English when looking at alternative twists to traditional stories.

Laura says

Wolves are supposed to be bad, right? What big eyes you have kind of bad. But this good little wolf wants to break the mold and prove wolves can be sweet too.

This book has one of the greatest endings ever!!!!

And that's all I'm saying. :)

Read this book. It will make your whole day!

Helen White says

The good little wolf is lovely but he has to get nasty when the big bad wolf threatens grandma.

Leanne Lynch says

‘Good Little Wolf’ by Nadia Shireen details the story of interactions between a good little wolf, and the stereotypical big bad wolf. Each wolf tries to convince the other to see the world through their eyes, and change the error of their ways. Good little wolf even invites big bad wolf for tea with grandma, and manages to convince him not to eat people anymore. However, big bad wolf is more cunning than we first thought, and gobble up both grandma and good little wolf.

I enjoyed the links to other stories, namely Little Red Riding Hood and the Three Little Pigs, and think that these were cleverly referenced by the author. I also think the language in the book is appropriate yet at a level which would allow children to expand on vocabulary.

Upon reading the book for the first time, I was imagining all sorts of possible class discussions on good versus evil, the effects of stereotyping and how justice is always served. However, the ending of the book shocked me, which is perhaps the authors intention, and immediately put an end to all my lovely discussion ideas. I think the ending would make children giggle, as long as they were able to grasp the suggestion that the big bad wolf had eaten grandma and the good little wolf.

The illustrations in this book are visually appealing, and the events are quite humorous which would make it engaging for young children. I would consider using this book in my own classroom, with the outcome being an exercise which allows children to create an alternative ending. However I don’t feel the book delivers a clear enough message to be placed amongst some of the other valuable books which I have reviewed.

Niamh Griffin says

This book tells the tale of an encounter between a good little wolf named Rolf and a big bad wolf. The author draws from many of the traditional fairytale stories with reference to characters such as Red Riding Hood, an old lady (Mrs. Boggins), the little pig, actions of the wolf (blowing down the house) etc. Shireen's story is told from the perspective of the good wolf and she invites us to explore the opposing views of good and evil. It is a story with a twist and unlike traditional fairytales good does not triumph over evil. However, as the story is not introduced with the typical 'Once-upon-a-time...' beginning the outcome at the end may have been predicted? It could be used for the basis of a debate in the classroom, discussing the innocence of the good wolf against the cunningness of the bad wolf. Will the bad wolf really change his ways as promised? A class could discuss the stereotypes such as if they think all wolves were evil? Can bad wolves change? The story could be incorporated into a lesson about values, beliefs and ethics. A good after activity might be circle time discussing how one has overcome bad habits etc. I would recommend this book for KS1. The illustrations in the book are engaging for this age range, although the clarity given at the end of the story may not leave it fully comprehensible.

Alan Jacob says

The book is about a non stereotypical wolf who helps gran and pigs with their everyday chores until one day the wolf meets a bad wolf who informs him of how wolves should behave. The story has a rather perplexing ending for a child's book that can easily be transformed into a intriguing discussion during a kS1 or 2 lesson.

The book is aimed at KS1 rather than 2 as the book is not very difficult to read with only a sentence or two per page. There are some good large illustrations on each page. The book plays on the normal ethos of a fairy tale drawing obvious motivation from other popular fairy tales but with a twist. I would be dubious about using this book for any child in an upper KS2 class as a reading book due to the simplicity of it, although you may find some that would want to read it.

Zahara says

Good Little Wolf, a tale different to other tales about wolves, this story is about Rolf, a small, gentle wolf, lives with Mrs. Boggins, Rolf is told he is a good little wolf. soon Rolf crosses another wolf and is told he is not a real wolf because Rolf is not big or scary. Determined to prove he is a real wolf, Rolf agrees to complete tasks set by the Bad wolf but Rolf fails. Then the wolf sets a final task, will Rolf be able to complete this task and prove he is in fact a real wolf?

A delightful tale consisting of familiar characters from well known story books which can lead to lengthy discussions before the story begins. The illustrations are clear and colourful.

This story is suitable for children from KS1 onwards, it can be independently read as well as read as part of story time.

I particularly like the cliffhanger at the end which allow children to complete the story themselves. This book will be suitable for an English lesson and can help promote persuasive language.

Fiona Kerr says

This is a fantastic tale where a good little wolf attempts to challenge, the big bad wolf in attempt to encourage the big bad wolf to change his ways. The big bad wolf teases the good little wolf that he is not wolf like enough and needs to be more fierce. In the end the Big bad wolf it appears the big bad wolf is convinced that he should change his wolf like ways... but not before eating the good little wolf. A fantastic twist on our traditional tales about big bad wolves. With potential links to art activities such as mask making and painting. This is a lovely read with humour and excitement for children aged 3- 9.

Helen Byrne says

This is a great picture book to use with year 1 and 2. It would also be suitable to use with older children if they were creating their own picture book. It is full of humour and familiar characters that children can relate to, for example Little Red Riding Hood and the Big Bad Wolf. The main character of the book is a small wolf called Rolf. He is a good little wolf who likes baking cakes and is always kind to his friends. He encounters a big bad wolf who tells him that he is not a real wolf because he doesn't howl at the moon or eat people. Rolf tries to be bad but it doesn't work. He changes the stereotype that you have to be big and bad to be a real wolf. The end of the story is left open to what happens next. It ends with a picture of the Bad wolf sitting in the kitchen but Rolf is nowhere to be seen until you turn to the very last page of the book. It is left open for you to decide what happened at the end of the story. This would be a great book to use with children

if they were learning about prediction text. The images in the book are vivid and humorous, which makes it engaging and exciting for children.
