My Teacher is a Monster

AUTHOR: Peter Brown
ILLUSTRATOR: Peter Brown
PUBLISHER: Little, Brown, and Company
COPYRIGHT DATE: 2014
ART MEDIUM: water color, gouache, pencil
GENRE: Humor, Contemporary Realistic Fiction
LIFE SKILLS: Trustworthiness, Friendship, Curiosity, Caring, Sense of Humor

SYNOPSIS:
Bobby begins school and finds his teacher, Ms. Kirby, to be unreasonably harsh. She is someone who barks orders, demands attention, and lacks a sense of humor. The teacher is a real monster. Bobby and his teacher coincidentally go to the same park on the same day, and Bobby begins to learn a bit more about his teacher. He also realizes that maybe she is not the monster he sees.

BOOKTALK:
Do you get in trouble at school sometimes? Do you have teachers that are real monsters? Bobby has a monster for a teacher, and he runs into her while playing at the park one weekend. Is his weekend now ruined? Let's read and find out!

AUTHOR: Peter Brown

Peter Brown is the author and illustrator of My Teacher is a Monster. He has spent his whole life telling stories and drawing pictures. He studied at the Art Center College of Design and his time there inspired him to become a children’s book illustrator. Many of his works have earned honors, including Creepy Carrots which was chosen as the YHBA Best Picture Book in 2015.

Other books written by the author:
Barkbelly with Cat Weatherill
Children Make Terrible Pets
Chowder
Creepy Carrots! with Aaron Reynolds
The Curious Garden
The Faulous Bouncing Chowder
Flight of the Dodo
Kaline Klattermaster’s Tree House with Haven Kimmel
Mr. Tiger Goes Wild
The Purple Kangaroo with Micahel Ian Black
Snowbone with Cat Weatherill
You Will Be My Friend!
CHALLENGING WORDS:
problem
roared
terrible
surprise
awkward
favorite
enormous
quacking

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:
1. Once Bobby got to know his teacher, he realized she wasn't a monster after all. Have you ever judged someone before you got to know them? Did your thoughts change after you got to know them better?
2. Bobby has a favorite spot at the park to play. Do you have a favorite place to play?
3. What do you think made Bobby change his mind about his teacher being a monster?
4. Have you read any other books where the teacher was a monster? (Teacher from the Black Lagoon)
5. Did the teacher actually change from a monster to a regular lady? Why?

ACTIVITIES WITH STANDARDS:

Language Arts:

- Have students write an acrostic poem using the letters from TEACHER.

  **W.1:** Learning Outcome for Writing - Write effectively for a variety of tasks, purposes, and audiences.

  **W.2:** Handwriting - Demonstrate the ability to write legibly.

Mathematics:

- Build and fly paper airplanes and have students measure how far their plane flies.

  **K.CA.2:** Solve real-world problems that involve addition and subtraction within 10 (e.g., by using objects or drawings to represent the problem.

  **K.G.3:** Model shapes in the world by composing shapes from objects (e.g., sticks and clay balls) and drawing shapes.
K.M.1: Make direct comparisons of the length, capacity, weight, and temperature of objects, and recognize which object is shorter, longer, taller, lighter, heavier, warmer, cooler, or holds more.

1.CA.2: Solve real-world problems involving addition and subtraction within 20 in situations of adding to, taking from, putting together, taking apart, and comparing, with unknowns in all parts of the addition or subtraction problem (e.g., by using objects, drawings, and equations with a symbol for the unknown number to represent the problem).

1.G.3: Use two-dimensional shapes (rectangles, squares, trapezoids, triangles, half-circles, and quarter-circles) or three-dimensional shapes (cubes, right rectangular prisms, right circular cones, and right circular cylinders) to create a composite shape, and compose new shapes from the composite shape. [In grade 1, students do not need to learn formal names such as "right rectangular prism."]

1.M.1: Use direct comparison or a nonstandard unit to compare and order objects according to length, area, capacity, weight, and temperature.

2.CA.2: Solve real-world problems involving addition and subtraction within 100 in situations of adding to, taking from, putting together, taking apart, and comparing, with unknowns in all parts of the addition or subtraction problem (e.g., by using drawings and equations with a symbol for the unknown number to represent the problem). Use estimation to decide whether answers are reasonable in addition problems.

2.CA.3: Solve real-world problems involving addition and subtraction within 100 in situations involving lengths that are given in the same units (e.g., by using drawings, such as drawings of rulers, and equations with a symbol for the unknown number to represent the problem).

2.G.2: Create squares, rectangles, triangles, cubes, and right rectangular prisms using appropriate materials.

2.M.1: Describe the relationships among inch, foot, and yard. Describe the relationship between centimeter and meter.

2.M.2: Estimate and measure the length of an object by selecting and using appropriate tools, such as rulers, yardsticks, meter sticks, and measuring tapes to the nearest inch, foot, yard, centimeter and meter.
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Author Website:  http://www.peterbrownstudio.com/

Peter Brown Activity Guide