If You Ever Want to Bring an Alligator to School, Don’t!

AUTHOR: Elise Parsley
ILLUSTRATOR: Elise Parsley
PUBLISHER: Little, Brown and Company
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ART MEDIUM: Digitally drawn in Adobe Photoshop and painted in Corel Painter
GENRE: Humor, animal fiction

BOOK SUMMARY: This book documents the inevitable, but nonetheless hilarious, events that unfold when a little girl brings an alligator to school for show and tell. Spoiler alert - there’s trouble!

BOOK TALK: Imagine your teacher asks your class to bring in something from nature for show and tell. What would you bring? A shiny stone? A bird’s nest? A colorful leaf? Magnolia decided to bring an alligator! Her teacher tried to tell her that alligators are trouble, but . . .

CHALLENGING WORDS: None

AUTHOR BIO: Elise Parsley studied illustration and creative writing in college and while there spent almost 2000 hours volunteering with AmeriCorps promoting literacy. Now she sees her job as an author and illustrator as a continuation of that volunteer work. She and her husband live in South Dakota.
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ILLUSTRATOR BIO: See AUTHOR BIO

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:
1. What did the alligator do to get Magnolia in trouble?
2. What facts did Magnolia share with her class about alligators?
3. What can you do if someone tries to interrupt class by showing you funny pictures or throwing paper?
4. What lessons did Magnolia learn from taking her alligator to school?
5. Will Magnolia will listen to her teacher now?
What else might the Alligator have done to get in trouble at school with Magnolia? Write and draw your ideas below