

E-mergency

AUTHOR: Tom Lichtenheld & Ezra Fields-Meyer

ILLUSTRATOR: Tom Lichtenheld & Ezra Fields-Meyer

PUBLISHER: Chronicle Books

COPYRIGHT DATE: 2011

ART MEDIUM: ink, pastels, and colored pencils

GENRE: fantasy

LIFE SKILLS: caring, cooperation, perseverance, responsibility

SYNOPSIS: Letter E has taken a terrible fall down the stairs! She is rushed to the hospital. All the other letters of the alphabet rush to help. They realize that until E recovers from her injuries, another letter will need to take her place in the spelling of words. Because O is “well-rounded” they ask him to do it. The alphabet letters spread the news far and wide that everyone should now substitute the letter O every time they write a word with an E in it. The book is full of letter puns and humor. In the end E recovers and life returns to normal! O is probably exhausted!!

BOOKTALK: What would you do if one of the letters of the alphabet could not be used for awhile? Would you substitute another letter? That’s what happens in *E-mergency* by Tom Lichtenheld and Ezra Fields-Meyer. The letter “E” needs to heal after an emergency. The letter “O” must fill in. But just imagine when words like elephant and eel are spelled olophant and ool!!

AUTHOR:

Author’s Name

Tom Lichtenheld lives in Illinois with his wife Jan. He loves to use his imagination to write and illustrate. In 2012 he won the E.B. White Read-Aloud Honor Award for *Goodnight, Goodnight Construction Site*.

http://www.tomlichtenheld.com/childrens_books/whoisthisguy.html

Ezra Fields-Meyer is a 15 year old high school student who loves animation. He created the animated short, *Alphabet Huse* and lives in Los Angeles, California.

Other books written by the author:

Everything I Know About Monsters?

Everything I Know About Cars?

Everything I Know About Pirates

What Are You So Grumpy About?

What’s With This Room?

ILLUSTRATOR: Tom Lichtenheld and Ezra Fields-Meyer (see above)

Other books illustrated by the illustrator Tom Lichtenheld:

Goodnight, Goodnight, Construction Site by Sherri Duskey Rinker

Shark vs. Train by Chris Barton and Tom Lichtenheld

Duck! Rabbit! by Amy Krause Rosenthal

Wumpers by Amy Krause Rosenthal

Cloudette by Christy Ottaviano

Zero the Hero by Christy Ottaviano

It's Not Fair by Amy Krause Rosenthal

Yes Day by Amy Krause Rosenthal

The OK Book by Amy Krause Rosenthal

Bridget's Beret by Christy Ottaviano

CHALLENGING WORDS (...due to pronunciation, spelling and/or defining):

emergency, EMT, IV, CPR, ER, assembled, alert, confusing, eavesdropping, excavating, obnoxious

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1 Would it have been easier if one of the other letters were used to substitute for "e"? Which letter?
- 2 What else could they have done to help "e" get better?
- 3 What made "e" finally get better?
- 4 How would you have ended this story differently?
- 5 Was this a difficult book for you to read? Why or why not?
- 6 Explain what a pun is? Find examples of puns in the text.
- 7 How did the illustration style enhance the story?

ACTIVITIES with CORE STANDARDS:

Language Arts:

Write a paragraph explaining why the author wrote this story. Once the paragraph has been edited for grammar and spelling, replace all the "e" in the paragraph with "o". Partner share and try to read each others writing pieces.

2.RI.6 Identify the main purpose of a text, including what the author wants to answer, explain, or describe.

Language Arts: Kindergarten Core Standard #1: Phonemic Awareness - Recognize and name capital and lowercase letters of the alphabet. Distinguish sounds (phonemes) in orally stated words and manipulate and blend sounds to make new words (including rhyming words).

- After reading the book with the class, review letters of the alphabet.

- Locate words in the story that begin with different letters of the alphabet
- Together work on creating an Alphabet Organizer online. It can be found at: <http://www.readwritethink.org/classroom-resources/student-interactives/alphabet-organizer-30035.html>.
- Encourage students to create a journal of words beginning with each letter of the alphabet.

Kindergarten Core Standard #1: Word Recognition - Discriminate among the features of written English, including letters, words and sentences, and read using understanding of conventions for direction (i.e., left to right and top to bottom).

- Following the reading of the book, take a look at the different sentences throughout the book (in the text and in the illustrations).
- Do the lessons “Sentence Quest: Using Parts of Speech to Write Descriptive Sentences” found at: <http://www.readwritethink.org/classroom-resources/lesson-plans/sentence-quest-using-parts-6.html>.
- Following the above lessons, have the students buddy with older students to cut words from magazines or newspapers to create sentences that describe pictures they find in magazines.

Mathematics:

Read a short story. Chart the frequency of letters used to see which letter is used most often. Refer to the chart at the back of the book *Emergency* by Tom Lichtenheld and Ezra Field-Meyer as an example.

2.MD.10 Draw a picture graph and a bar graph (with single-unit scale) to represent a data set with up to four categories. Solve simple put-together, take-apart, and compare problems using information presented in a bar graph.

RELATED INTERNET SITES:

Book trailer: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hve4DenyATU>

Books by Tom Lichtenheld: http://www.tomlichtenheld.com/childrens_books/e-mergency.html

http://www.tomlichtenheld.com/childrens_books/e-mergency.html

Teaching books.net: <http://www.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?aid=5776>

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