

Just Cheese, Please!



Just Cheese, Please! Teachers' Notes

Learning objective: Year 1, 7a: Identify the main events and characters in stories

Key words: asked, through, spinach, broccoli, wouldn't, minute

Cross-curricular/theme links: Families, food

Genre: Fiction

NC level: Approximately Level 1B-1A

Assessment: AF2, Level 1: Some simple points from familiar texts recalled

Word count: 502

Getting started

Look together at the cover and read the title and blurb. Ask: 'What do you think it would be like if you only wanted to eat one sort of thing? How do you think his parents might feel about him just eating cheese?' Share predictions about the story.

Guided reading

Pages 2-3: Remind the children to use their phonic knowledge to help them tackle any unfamiliar words. Ask: 'Do you ask for a snack when you get home from school? What types of snacks do you eat? Do you think Nick's mum will let him have cheese instead of an apple?'

Pages 4-10: Ask the children to look out for evidence about how Nick's mum and dad feel about him only eating cheese. What clues can they find that Mum is upset about it?

Pages 11-14: Can the children explain what Mum's plan is? Do they think it will work?

Pages 15-24: Ask: 'How do you think Nick will feel about his dinner? Do you think he will eat it?' At the end of the story, do the children think Mum's plan was a good one?

Speaking and listening

- Ask the children to role-play being Nick and his friend. The friend has to try to persuade Nick to try a different type of food, by making it sound as delicious as possible.
- The children can then swap roles and try the same exercise again.

After reading

Use these questions to help children talk about the book.

- Why did Mum and Dad want to get Nick to eat different types of food?
- What was Mum's plan to get Nick to do this?
- What happened at the end of the story? Had Nick changed his opinion about eating other things than cheese?

Reading into writing

Ask the children to create and write out a menu for Nick. Can they describe a delicious meal that includes cheese – but also some other things?

Book quiz for children

- 1 Can you find two different types of cheese that are mentioned in the book?
- 2 What other foods did Mum put in Nick's dinner at the end of the story, as well as cheese?
- 3 What do you think Nick will have for dinner tomorrow?

Support for less confident readers

Less confident readers could tackle this story in a group, with different children taking on each character's dialogue

Extension for more confident readers

The children could write a new version of the story, where Nick gets stuck on a different type of food – for example, chocolate.