

Meanies in the House

Features of the text:

- Punctuation: speech marks, exclamation marks, apostrophe for contraction and possession, bold print
- Repeated refrain
- Rhyming
- Visual language

<p>Before Reading</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ask the children what a “mess” would look like in different rooms in their house (kitchen, bedroom, bathroom).• Ask, <i>What messy things might the Meanies do in the house?</i>• Introduce the text: Meanies in the House.• Look at the cover and title page. What clues do they give about the story?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Making meaning: making personal connections, prediction, visual literacy• Analyzing the text: visual literacy
<p>Reading the Text</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ask the children to read the text quietly.• Give them something specific to focus on. For example, <i>Read the book to find out if the Meanies were scared of anything.</i>• If necessary, guide the children’s reading of one or two pages, then encourage them to read on quietly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children may draw upon all four practices during the reading of the text. Help individual children as necessary.
<p>After Reading</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Look at the title page and pages 5, 9, 13, and 15. Ask, <i>Is this story true or false?</i>• Look on page 12. Ask, <i>What does “run for cover” mean? What other words mean the same?</i>• Look at the title page and pages 2–3, 4–5, 6–7, 10–11. Ask, <i>What evidence is there that the Meanies have been making a mess?</i>• <i>Why do you think the Meanies are especially scared of Grandma?</i>• Notice the apostrophe for contraction on pages 2 (<i>doesn’t, they’re</i>), 5 (<i>let’s</i>), 9 (<i>let’s, it’s</i>), 12 (<i>what’s</i>), 13 (<i>let’s</i>), 16 (<i>it’s</i>). Compare with the apostrophe for possession on pages 4 (<i>Mum’s</i>) and 16 (<i>mother’s</i>).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Using the text: understanding the differences between reality and fantasy, considering how words are used (vocabulary)• Making meaning: recall, inference, visual literacy• Cracking the code: punctuation, rhyming