



Weird Parents

Audrey Wood

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32 pp. Pub: 9/95. *****Not only does his mother pack weird surprises in his lunch box--like a hard-boiled egg with rabbit ears and whiskers--but his father asks him to do weird things in public, like imitate a chicken. Of course, the boy won't, so his weird father does it instead. Why can't his parents just be normal like everyone else's, or everyone else's parents be weird like his? Full-color.

Weird Parents Details

Date : Published September 1st 1995 by Puffin (first published May 7th 1990)

ISBN : 9780140549249

Author : Audrey Wood

Format : Paperback 32 pages

Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Family, Humor



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From Reader Review Weird Parents for online ebook

Carrie says

In this picture book, a little boy has strange parents. His mother calls him pet names and blows kisses at the bus stop. His father walks him home from school and has to stop and greet everyone along the way. And they BOTH wear the weirdest outfits when they go out for movie nights! They also have fun though, like going for ice cream and playing double Parcheesi. With its focus on loving our families in spite of their individual quirks, this book is relatable for readers big and small.

Betsy says

Weird Parents is a moralistic tale that is easily made relatable to young readers through Audrey Wood's use of characterization and word choice. The vocabulary is more complicated and challenges beginning readers to utilize their developing literacy skills. There is no specific rhyme or pattern in the story, however the repetition of certain phonemes, such as the "w" sound, reinforces the reader's understanding of the sound within various words and in conjunction with the overall text. The true benefit of this book lies within the morals and lessons that it presents. The young boy is learning to appreciate the uniqueness of his parents and to accept them for who they are. This book could certainly be extended into many lessons about acceptance, family, and values at any age level because of the morals that Wood presents through her simple text. The development of the characters and their personality traits, that are built up and maintained throughout the story, adds to the overall effectiveness of the book and makes it easily relatable for children of all ages. The illustrations that accompany the text are very fitting and appropriate for the story. Audrey uses colored pencils, watercolor, pen and ink to add intricate details to all of the images and give the characters life. Much detail and attention is paid to the facial expressions and features of each of the characters, which attributes to the characterization that she incorporates in her text. The elaborate patterns and details of the clothing add a great contrast to the more subtle and simple background settings in each of the images. The vibrant colors lend to the upbeat and eccentric characteristics of the parents in the story, and draw in readers. The images themselves tell a story independent from the text, and could certainly be extended off of, such as adding to, substituting, or creating a different illustration, to enhance the learning and understanding of readers. This story is very beneficial to readers of all ages because of the moralistic undertones and the use of bright and highly detailed illustrations that draw in readers and further their comprehension of the story.

Nicole says

This story is about a little boy who tries to accept his parent's weird ways. The little boy sees his parents through a lens that the society around him sees them through. With their weird outfits and weird ways of packing a lunch, weird ways to show affection, etc. After the main character wishes his parents were normal "just like everyone else" he discovers that he would not have it any other way. This can relate to children if they are ever embarrassed about anything in their own lives whether it be their family members or themselves. What's important is the journey of acceptance that this character experiences. This story falls under the Humor and Fiction genres.

Storytime Books says

This book is great for any child because it shows them that everyone can experience that time where they are embarrassed of their parents. It also shows them that no matter what, their parents will always be there for them and sometimes the “weird parents” are the best ones to have. The illustrations, also done by Audrey Wood, are very colorful and detailed. The expressions of the characters really bring the book to life, along with all the detailed settings she has drawn for the book. So, if you are looking for some laughs to read with your child, along with a great lesson learner, check out this book. It’s one not to be forgotten.

Audra says

We like the Napping House, but loved Weird Parents. I wasn't so sure when we checked this out - often fun titles lead to really dumb books. But- the illustrations are cute, the text- funny and well-placed and true. With a lesson to boot. This book would be enjoyable to read again and again, with toddlers or teenagers. Five stars!

Michelle Burton says

I was looking for a good read aloud for my students and discovered in my media center. I always loved books by Audrey and Don Wood and this was a gem. I read it to some third graders to help with visualization and they really loved it.

Eva Leger says

Julia didn't like this and she was quite clear about it. I thought it was okay and I think the reason she didn't care for it is because she's not embarrassed by me... yet. She will be soon enough but she couldn't relate. I don't think this is targeted at children very much older - it is age appropriate which sounds weird. Maybe I'm just extra cool or something. ;-)

Kathryn Sublett says

This book would be great for children of all ages. Sometimes students need to be reminded of the love their parents have for them. Educators could use this book to prepare students for a writing assignment about their parents. I had some students in first grade disgusted when their parents tried to give them a kiss goodbye, so they acted out by talking disrespectfully to their parents. Using this book could help students realize their parents are not out to get them.

Kristina says

I thought that this was a cute book. my kids enjoyed reading this book. I would recommend this book to others.

Amanda Stacy says

This book could be used for any elementary school class. I would use it to help students realize how their parents love them. Also, how they should love and respect their parents. This could be used at the end of the year before students make thank you cards or holiday cards for their parents.

Ronyell says

“Weird Parents” is another classic book from the famed children’s author.....**AUDREY WOOD!!!!** This book humorously narrates the story of a boy’s attempts at trying to get used to his parents’ awkward ways with society. Audrey Wood’s hilarious story and even more hilarious illustrations make this book a true comedic and sitcom book.

Audrey Wood has truly been successful in her children’s books and “Weird Parents” is certainly no exception. Audrey Wood explores the trials of what every child goes through whenever they have parents who embarrassed them in public, but in the end, understands that their parents really do care about them no matter how weird they are. Also, Audrey Wood’s illustrations are humorous and surreal as she illustrates everyone in public as regular looking people while the weird parents have loud and colorful clothing and wobbly limbs. The image that really stood out the most in this book was the image of the weird parents reading their son a scary book inside the tent and their eyes are wide with fright while the boy just sits with them with a contented look on his face. This image shows that the narrator, the little boy, finally comes to terms with his parents’ oddness in society and realizes that his parents do in fact love him no matter how weird they are.

“Weird Parents” is an excellent book about respecting your parents’ individuality and learning the true meaning of parental love for a child, despite them occasionally embarrassing you in public. For parents who want to teach their children about parental love, this book is certainly appropriate for children ages four and over and will surely be another cult classic from Audrey Wood.

Review is also on: Rabbit Ears Book Blog

Chloe says

Weird Parents by Audrey Wood is a story that encompasses the hilariousness of being a young child and

thinking your parents are ridiculously embarrassing with the sentimental knowing of the love that parents share for their children and vice versa. The story focuses on a boy and how "weird" his parents are. He points out ways in which his parents act weird and identifies the ways in which he is different from them. Through many different examples and explanations, the reader begins to think that perhaps his parents are ""weird" but at the end of the story, the narrator, which is the son of the parents, realizes that although his parents may be "weird" he loves them and would not have them any other way. This story is important because it focuses on the idea of children thinking their parents are different from them. It also identifies the love a boy has for his mother and his father. The son in the story is an only child as well. The story is rather short but overall encourages the idea that no matter who your parents are or what your parents act like, it is important to love them for who they are.

Dolly says

We found a Netflix treat: we just watched *Shelley Duvall's Bedtime Stories*, which features animated adaptations of children's storybooks with celebrity narrators. This story was narrated by Bette Midler and we just loved the format. It reminded us of the Tumblebooks animations that we occasionally watch online. As the book is narrated, we followed along with a slightly animated version of the illustrations. It was very entertaining and we really enjoyed watching all of the episodes on the DVD.

This story was very funny, and I think that parents and children can appreciate the humor. Parents often embarrass their children, perhaps not quite to the extent that these parents do, but enough to mortify kids, especially in front of their friends. I liked that the ending shows that children and parents still love each other, no matter how goofy we act. We laughed a lot while watching this segment and I promised to try to not embarrass our girls too much.

Magila says

3.5

I liked this book. It has a good object lesson about how kids always seem to think their parents are weird. But I wasn't at all in love with it. The bright colors and illustrations win my wife over. Me, I say grab this one at the library.

Hope says

As a kid, we all have had that moment when we wish our parents were different and maybe a little weird. I think this book could be used as a writing prompt. Write about a time when a friend or family member acted different than you did, but you did not care because they were still your friend or your family members. The emotions the boy in the story feels are displayed in the pictures, but not in the words, which leaves room for conversations about emotions and how sometimes other people's actions make us feel a certain way.
