

The New Potty by Mercer Mayer



STORY DESCRIPTION: It's time for Little Sister to learn how to use her brand new potty. First she learns she can read a book while on the potty. Then she uses it as a chair while watching TV. Even her dolls like to sit on it! She also learns that if she isn't careful she can miss the potty and get the floor all wet! This charming tale of common potty training frustrations encourages children to keep trying.

SUBJECT: Social-Emotional Learning

GRADE LEVELS: Preschool, Pre-K, K

USING omBooks IN THE CLASSROOM

Reading Modes

Read it Myself

- Read the story to your students or have the students read the story themselves
- Turn the pages to read at your own pace

Read to Me

- Follow along as the story is read by the narrator
- Turn the pages to read at your own pace

Auto Play

- Follow along as the story is read by a narrator
- Pages turn automatically for reading at a controlled pace

Interactive Features

- Tap a picture to hear and see the word associated with it
- Tap on an individual word to hear it pronounced
- Touch and hold a paragraph to hear it read by a narrator
- Find the creatures throughout the story! Tap on them to count them.

Reading Dynamics

Large Group

- Connect your iOS or Android device to your classroom projector, TV, or computer monitor (see *How-To Guide*).
- Use the *Read it Myself* mode to read the story aloud, or use the *Read to Me* or *Auto Play* modes to present the story to the entire class.
- Use the discussion questions on page 3 to guide a whole-class discussion.
- Alternatively, if your students can read, project the questions on the screen. Invite students to partner up and discuss the story in pairs. Ask them to record their discussion on the iOS or Android device so you can assess their work.

Small Groups

- Gather a small group of students and display the iOS or Android device so all can see.
- Use the *Read it Myself* mode to read the story aloud, or use the *Read to Me* or *Auto Play* modes to present the story to the small group.
- Use the discussion questions on page 3 to guide a group discussion.

Partners

- If you have enough devices in the classroom, invite students to read or listen to the story in pairs.
- Students can take turns reading pages, asking questions, and supporting each other.
- If your students can read, give them the discussion questions from page 3. Ask them to record their discussion on the iOS or Android device so you can assess their work.
- If your students are non-readers, invite the class to come back together as a large group. Guide a class discussion using the discussion questions on page 3.

Independent

- If you have enough devices in the classroom, invite students to read or listen to the story independently.
- Students can use the interactive features to support their reading, and each student can explore the text and illustrations at an individualized pace.
- If your students can read, give them the discussion questions from page 3 and ask them to type or record their responses on the device.
- If your students are non-readers, invite the class to come back together as a large group. Guide a class discussion using the discussion questions on page 3.

DISCUSSING THE STORY

1. Why does Little Critter's sister cry when she first sees the potty?
2. Why is she scared to use the potty in the beginning of the story?
3. What helps her overcome her fear? What makes her less scared?
4. Does little sister have any accidents while she is learning to use the potty? Does she give up or keep trying?
5. Have you ever kept trying to do something even though it was hard for you? What happened? How did you feel?

EXTENDING THE LEARNING

Support students in using the iOS or Android device as a tool to extend their learning. Some ideas:

- **Set a goal:** Little Critter's little sister was scared to use the potty, but she overcame her fear and learned how to use it. As a class, brainstorm a challenging goal. Write down all of your students ideas for what to do, and pick one challenging goal to work toward as a class. Talk about why it could be scary to do something challenging, discuss potential problems they will face, and create a plan for how to overcome those problems. Document the experience with pictures, video, text, and/or audio, and blog about the experience of working toward the goal. The blog will keep parents informed and provide a place for students to reflect on their work.
- **Tell a transmedia story:** Ask your students to think about a time at home when they did something even though it was scary or hard for them. How did they do it? What helped them reach their goal? How did they feel when they did it? Support your students in creating a transmedia story about it. Use some or all of the following media:
 - Produce a movie
 - Record a story and save it as an audio file to play back or share
 - Perform a digital puppet show using a puppet app
 - Draw or paint scenes to create a slideshow

SHARING YOUR WORK

Have you used The New Potty omBook in your class? We'd love to hear about it! To share your experience, please visit the Education Center on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/OceanhouseMedia .

DOWNLOADING THE APPS

omBooks (Oceanhouse Media Digital Books) are available for purchase in the following stores:

