



Tooth Trouble

Abby Klein , John McKinley (Illustrations)

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Watch out, Junie, there's a new kid on the block! It's Freddy Thresher, a first grader who knows it's a jungle out there. A new chapter book series written by an elementary teacher who's seen it all!

Freddy Thresher has a problem: a really, really, big problem. He's the only one in his class who hasn't lost a tooth! All of the other students in Mrs. Wushy's first grade have signed their names on the Big Tooth, and Freddy's determined to get his name on it, too. So when Max "The Meanie" Sellars calls Freddy a baby, Freddy decides he's going to lose that tooth one way or another, even if it means getting punched in the face at recess, or even bigger trouble, with Mom!

Tooth Trouble Details

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Author : Abby Klein , John McKinley (Illustrations)

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From Reader Review Tooth Trouble for online ebook

Sara Baker says

Summary

This book is about a little boy named Freddy. Freddy is in first grade and has not lost a tooth yet. In fact, he is the only one in his grade that has not lost one yet. His teacher has her students come over to the rug every time some loses a tooth. They all watch whoever lost their tooth write on a large tooth their name. This makes Freddy feel upset and left out.

Freddy tries everything he can to try to lose his tooth. He tried tying his tooth to a string to pull it out. He tried to get the first grade bully to knock it out. Instead, the bully just punched him in the stomach. After that, his mom takes him for ice cream to make him feel better. He ends up losing his tooth when he is eating his ice cream and swallows it. The next day, he still gets to write his name on the large tooth in front of the class. He feels accomplished and happy.

Responses

I gave this book five stars because I thought it was cute. It teaches children many important lessons.

This book reminded me of when I was a child. Just like in the story, my sister told me she would knock out some of my teeth if I wanted. I also tried tying floss to a door knob to pull one of my teeth out.

Classroom Connections

I believe this book teaches many different lessons that need to be taught to children. The first one being patience. Every child develops at a different rate. They need to be taught at a young age to be patient. Also, this book teaches that fighting does not solve anything. Freddy thought that if he got into a fight it would solve his problem of not losing a tooth yet. However, the bully did not punch Freddy in the mouth, so all it gave Freddy was stomach pains. It also teaches children not to be jealous of other children because their time at thing will come eventually if they wait it out long enough.

CCSS Range

According to lexile.com, the lexile rating for this book is 560L. I feel that this book would be a great read allowed for first grade since the main character, Freddy is in first grade. According to the lexile level, this book would be a good read allowed for third graders. The words are simple enough and the chapters are short. There are pictures every couple pages. It is an easy read.

Nina G. says

Freddy is in the first grade and many of his classmates are already losing their baby teeth. Freddy is the only kid in the first grade who is still waiting to lose at least one tooth. Freddy's teacher has a big tooth where everybody who has lost a tooth signs their name. This makes Freddy very upset and left out. Freddy tries to do everything he can so he can lose a tooth. To cheer Freddy up, his mother takes him for ice cream. Freddy finally loses his tooth and gets to sign his name!

My response: I think this was a cute book because I remember when I was around that age and I couldn't wait to lose my teeth and wait for the tooth fairy to come. One time I had this stubborn tooth that wouldn't come out and my dad would always scare me that he would pull it out with his pliers! I remember doing

whatever I could just to avoid the "pliers".

Classroom Connection: Students can definitely relate to this book as they are all awaiting to lose their teeth. I think it is also important for children to understand that everybody grows differently and it is important to be patient. When I was in the first grade, my teacher cut out sheets of paper in the shape of a tooth and we would write what we wished for the tooth fairy to bring us.

Lexile: 560L

Being that Freddy is in the first grade, I think this would be a great book for read aloud in the first grade. Students should be able to read this independently by the middle of second grade.

Young Jin says

It has a cute story that reminds me of my own childhood.

Jennifer Davis says

My 8 year old recently borrowed this book from our public library.

This is the first installment to the Ready Freddy series. This book is about Freddy Thresher, a first grader, that is the only kid in his class that hasn't lost a tooth yet. The story revolves around how Freddy feels being the only one and the trouble he goes through trying to make himself lose a tooth.

The book contains 11 chapters and there are some black and white illustration throughout. Book is listed for Preschool-Third grade, but I would recommend it for first grade and up. My second grader needed some help with reading some of the words and understanding some of the situations. (Warning, book does contain name calling, some bullying, and a fight.)

Book also contains a Freddy's Fun Page, A Very Silly Story assignment, and how to make Jessie's tooth pillow.

We will be reading more of this series.

Tam Tam says

Son thought "it was amazing", SO 5 stars for a 6 year old. I thought it was just okay.

We actually listened to the audio version. I didn't really like Freddy's voice. His sister was rude and annoying. They say stupid and have name calling throughout book.

Stephanie (Bookish Plans) says

This poor boy hasn't lost any teeth yet and it's making him so upset that he's willing to go the extra mile and do drastic things just so he can lose a tooth. This book made my 7 year old laugh. This book was right up his alley!

Melanie Bates says

Tooth Trouble

Summary: This story is about a student named Freddy. Freddy has yet to lose his first tooth. In Freddy's class his teacher allows each student who loses their tooth to come up and sign their name on a large tooth. Since Freddy was the only student who hadn't lost a tooth he felt pressured to do whatever he needed to get his mane displayed.

Freddy even took drastic measures to lose his first tooth. Ironically his tooth fell out while eating ice cream. Although he swallowed his first tooth Freddy's teacher still allowed him to sign the giant classroom tooth.

Response: I liked this electronic book. It reminded me of when I was in elementary school. I remember anytime a student in my class lost a tooth most of my teachers had these little tooth cases on necklaces they would give the child. I remember I always wanted to get one so I tried everything I could to lose a tooth at school, needless to say I never got a necklace. This story definitely reminded me of some of my past teachers.

Classroom Connections: I think this story could tie into healthy habits. Students could learn the importance of patience and healthy dental habits. They could learn what foods are harmful to teeth and then fill out a chart with healthy and unhealthy foods for your teeth. May demonstrate their understanding correctly distinguishing what foods or drinks may be harmful to their dental health.

CCSS: Tooth trouble has a lexile measure of 560L. The guided reading level is L and the grade equivalent is 1.8. I believe students from kindergarten through second grade would enjoy this book.

SLoMoe says

First, as a beginner chapter book, this book is just fine. Plenty of illustrations and short chapters help the beginning reader. The reason i didn't like this book was there was too much name calling. The siblings are rude to one another and there is a bully that challenges Freddy to a fight (and they fight in the playground). In this book, Freddy is bummed because he is the only kid in his class who has not yet lost a baby tooth. He goes about trying to loose his tooth. Spoiler: in the end he looses his tooth eating ice cream. The tooth was not yet even wiggly yet he lost it while eating ice cream. It was unbelievable. Clearly the author needed to wrap up the the story and wanted the tooth to come out as soon as he stopped trying, but, come on! Ice cream?!

We won't read more from this series. The characters' behaviors aren't those I want my kids to model.

Lisa Kissel says

Cute enough story. Some bratty moments. The kids also thought it was just ok.

Valeta says

Summary

Freddy Thrasher is the only one in his first grade class who hasn't lost his tooth. Everyone in Freddy's class has signed their name on the big tooth except Freddy. Freddy is determined to get his name on it. He tries tying a string to a door knob and getting punched in the face at recess by the class bully. When nothing seems to work, Freddy's parents take him and his sister to get ice cream. Freddy said no nuts on his ice cream but thinks he got a nut because he swallowed something hard. Then his sister told him that what he really swallowed was his tooth. At least he's not the only one who hasn't lost a tooth and now he gets to write his name in the Big Tooth.

Response

I give this eBook a four star rating. I think this was a good story that children can relate to as they anticipate the loss of their first tooth. This story has a kid friendly writing style. I think kids will also identify with the realistic relationship between the siblings. This interactive story app offers questions for the reader to identify with what they have read, word twisters, word scrambles, and some fun shark facts at the end.

Classroom Connection

Just for fun. It is important to keep children interested and passionate for reading. Teachers may consider discussing the different ways in which the students have lost their own teeth or other things Freddy could have done to lose his tooth.

Text Complexity

According to Scholastic Book Wizard, this book has an interest level for grades K – 2 and an independent reading level equivalent for a second grader. Its lexile measure is 560L and its guided reading is L.
?

Kristen says

Blake read this to us each night on the Storia app (scholastics app). This book was so much fun, a perfect read for my son. It just so happened that when my son started reading this he was distraught about losing his first tooth. He got such a kick out of this book. He even got an idea on how to get his tooth out from this book. I also loved reading it on the Storia app, it had little lightning bolts on some of the pages that had little activities for him to do that pertained to the story. Highly recommend this book and especially on the Storia app.

Chance Hansen says

This book is a pretty decent short story. There are a couple small nitpicks about this book but as a whole it's decent.

Cover

The front cover design is quite honest as to what the interior pictures are like.

Interior

Art

I wasn't going to go into the drawing all that much. Their basic nicely drawn pencil styled illustrations. They fit the style of the book really well. Something that really blew me out of the water was that the word FIN in hidden in every drawing. and while I haven't looked threw every picture some of them were a bit tricky to find. I'm impressed with this little secret hidden in every picture.

Story

Like I said the story is basic. There are a few minor twists in the book that really keep the tone of the book the same. The best character I would have to say would be the older sister. Even though I would say she is a tiny bit too much to handle she really has some really good sibling quips. There are a couple criticisms I would give it.

1) Describing the Principal.

This may seem like a small detail but I don't think you need to introduce a character that even appears into the book. Also the description itself annoys me some because Abby tried pulling a Todd Strasser move.

Monkey Breath = Skunk - because - Banana Breath = Bad Breath

Even the introductory description seemed similar. I get you want all the players introduced in the first book but here it's not needed.

2)

Logically if a kid at school gets decked at school (for sort of fighting?) and is sent to the nurse station. I expected the parents at least to know from the school rather than from his older sister.

Shauna says

Garrett didn't even want to finish it....

Nadia Gonzalez says

Summary: Tooth Trouble (Ready,Freddy! #1) is part of a series of books that introduces Freddy Thresher, a first grader who is obsessed with sharks and losing his first tooth. Freedy is the only one in his first grade class that has not lost any teeth or has written hs name on The Big Tooth. Freddy tries taking a stab at pulling his own tooth with a peice of old string that he found and some tape that he left inside of his fish bowl. His mother interrupts him and he is forced to shove the tape and string in his mouth. His plan failed. Freddy than decided that he will come up with a Plan B, which is to get into a fight with the meanest and biggest first grader Max, hoping that Max will punch him in the face and knock his teeth out. Plan B also failed for poor Freddy. Finally Freddy loses his tooth unexpectedly while eating strawberry swirl ice cream. He thought his

tooth was a nut the accidentally got into his ice cream...and swallowed it. Freddy is devastated when he realized what he did. He was so sad that he had nothing to give to the tooth fairy, but he was informed by his sister Suzie that all he had to do was write a letter to the tooth fairy explaining what happened. Relieved he wrote his letter with the help of his sister and he received a silver dollar. The next day Freddy was able to write his name on The Big Tooth and he was no longer the only one that had all his teeth. The illustrations were simple but gave a visual as to what was going on from page to page. The lightning bolts that were found on several of the pages were interactive games that helped the reader gain an understanding of the material they are reading.

Response: I enjoyed reading this book and participating in the interactive activity within the book. The activities helped me as a reader stay focused and comprehend what I was reading. Again this book took me back to my childhood. I remembering trying the string trick and asking my older brother to punch me so that my tooth would fall out. Now that I'm twenty seven I look back and see how crazy those ideas were.

Classroom Connection: This would be a great book to read aloud to first graders. First grade is around the time that kids start losing their teeth so introducing them to this book may lessen the fear of their teeth falling out. After reading the book I would talk to my students about why it's important for our baby teeth to fall out and I would also discuss with them why it is important to keep your teeth clean and healthy.

Text Complexity: This book is a 560L lexile/GR level L. The interest level for this book is Kindergarten. I feel that it is appropriate for read aloud preK-2 and can be read independently by the end of first grade.

Megan McKenny says

Personal response: While I can relate entirely to being the only child to have not lost a tooth (I didn't lose my first tooth until third grade), there were some components of this book that may be troubling. I found some of the characters stereotypical and sometimes use inappropriate behavior, such as the bully. It is up to parental discretion however as to the ways they feel about their child reading these concepts and depends on maturity of reader as well. The story itself is cute and likely relatable.

Purpose: As a transitional book this would be excellent for a independent read, probably for second graders. Things that could be discussed by teachers with students could very well deal with the characters. A teacher could help students work towards internal dialogue, promoting critical thinking with questions such as, "How would you feel if you were Freddy's situation?" Following the dialogue in this story may be challenging for some students as it uses multiple sentences said by each character going back and forth for multiple pages without specifying the speaker. This may cause students to need to re-read these parts to follow. Character moral dilemmas could be used as source for conversation, teachers can use these opportunities to suggest students think about characteristics that they may want to avoid in themselves (i.e. talking about avoiding bullying behaviors).
