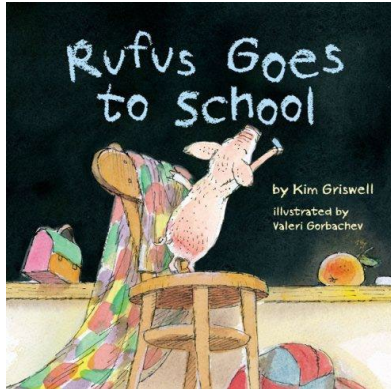


Rufus Goes to School



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Topics: Rules, Building community, Student voice, Rights and responsibilities

Genres: Animals, Anthropomorphic life lessons stories, Schools stories

Rufus is a little pig with a BIG dream. He wants to go to school! Backpack in hand, Rufus heads to school, only to be told: “No pigs in school!” Rufus thinks the rule is unfair and is determined not to give up on his dream. Listen to this story as Rufus tries to figure out why some rules exist and what truly makes a pig ready for school!

Before the Read Aloud:

What dreams do you want to make happen within the next year? Share your dream. How would you react if you were told you were not allowed to achieve your dream?

During the Read Aloud:

1. Why was it Rufus’ dream to go to school? How do you think Rufus felt when he was told no?
2. Who do you think made the “No pigs in school” rule? Why do you think this was a rule? Do you think this was a fair rule? Why or why not?

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3. When Rufus learned about the “No pigs in school” rule, he was confused! He didn’t understand why that would be a rule. Can you think of any rules that you don’t understand? How about rules that you don’t like following?

Take Action Project:

Imagine you are the teacher for new students in first grade. They have never been in a classroom with the exact rules of this grade. How would you explain at least three rules to these new first graders? What would you do if they did not want to follow the rules?



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