

# Lamont Books Standing Order

March 2012

*Teacher Notes and Activities*

## **What's The Matter Aunty May?**

By Peter Friend & Illustrated by Andrew Joyner

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\$24.95

When the help becomes a hindrance, Aunty May is left clean out of patience. In this portrait of childhood optimism and cheer, the narrator proceeds from chore to chore leaving a trail of destruction behind him, oblivious to his aunt's horror.



### Themes:

- Helping or hindering
- Aunties
- Not being so serious

### Discussion Points:

- By looking at the cover of the book, how would you describe the little boy?
- Think about the sequence of how a book would normally be. What is different about this book? Can you remember any other books that seem to start at the end?
- The little boy and his Aunty had different ideas of what was helping. Have you ever tried to help out and it hasn't gone according to plan? Explain.
- Why do you think that they couldn't see each others point of view?
- In what other circumstances might adults and children see things differently?
- Do you think Aunty May was being too serious or was she right to be angry? Can you relate to both parties in this story?
- Do you have an Aunty that you love to help? Would she react the same way as Aunty May did?
- Why do you think that we don't know the little boys name?

### Activities:

- Think of something that could go wrong in the house when you try to help out. Write your own rhyming verse about it. Include an illustration as well.
- Ask your Mum or Dad if there is a chore that you can do. They might be shocked that you asked! Try to do it without causing the chaos that happened in this story.