

Lamont Books Standing Order

June 2014

Teacher Notes and Activities

I Am Cow Hear Me Moo

By Jill Esbaum & Illustrated by Gus Gordon

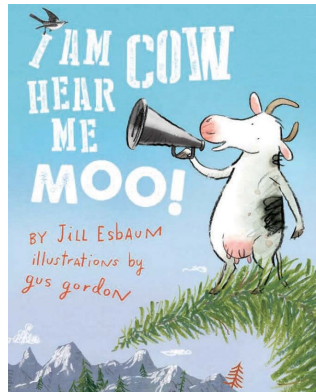
Publisher: Viking/Penguin

ISBN 9780670077106

\$24.99

Oh, you are going to love this book. I'm great in it - really brave. You're smart to read this. Not as smart as me, of course, or as brave, but then, I am cow, hear me moooooooooo!

Nadine is a 'truly remarkable cow' who is afraid of absolutely nothing; or so she claims. She's a bit of a show-off, really, and when her friends take her up on her offer of a tour through the woods, Nadine is in her element. Then night falls, and when her friends leave and Nadine is left to explore a dark cave all on her own, suddenly she doesn't feel quite so brave after all!



Themes:

- Bragging
- Courage/bravery
- Telling the truth

Discussion Points

- Looking at the cover, what do you think the book might be about?
- The other cows, Starla and Annette, admitted that they were scared of things. Why do you think Nadine boasted that she wasn't scared of anything? Why do you think she didn't want to admit it?
- Have you ever found yourself in a similar situation with your friends? Or have you ever had friends who have acted like Nadine?
- Even though we know Nadine wasn't really brave, did she show some bravery and courage when she needed to? Explain.
- We all find ourselves in strange and scary circumstances sometimes. What is the bravest you have ever been? Did you surprise yourself with how you reacted when you had to face the challenge?
- Should Nadine have told the truth to Starla and Annette about what really happened in the woods? Do you think the 'real' Nadine will be found out, especially given the sign in the illustration at the end of the story?
- How do you think the others will react when they find out the truth?

Activities:

- Recreate your favourite scene from the story, using the same techniques as the illustrator, which are watercolours, pencils, crayons and collage.