

Lamont Books Standing Order

August 2014

Teacher Notes and Activities

The Skunk With No Funk

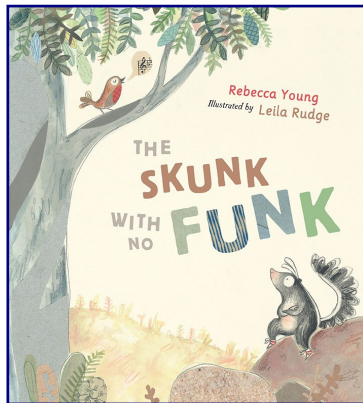
By Rebecca Young & illustrated by Leila Rudge

Publisher: Walker Books

ISBN 9781922179012

\$24.95

Woody is not what his family expected. He is a skunk with NO funk. A failure. A flop. An odourless plop. Poor Woody! What is he going to do?



Teacher notes have been taken from those prepared by the publisher, Walker Books. A full version is available at www.walkerbooks.com.au.

Themes:

- Family
- Relationships
- Difference
- Acceptance

Discussion Points & Activities:

- The title of the book is a pun or play on words, which means using a word which has more than one meaning in a humorous way. What is the double meaning of the title? What clues does it give you about the story?
- Is this book a real or imagined story? What would you expect in a non-fiction book about a skunk?
- Woody is different to his family members from the time he is born and as he grows up it becomes apparent that he is more interested in dancing than finding his funk like the rest of his family. Do you ever feel like you have different interests to your parents, brothers or sisters? Make a list of the ways that you are similar and different to your family members. Do you think it is important for people to have different interests? Why?
- Why does Woody feel like a failure after his family try to make him smell like a skunk? What do you think his family could have said to Woody to make him feel better?
- Research skunks in your school library or online. Where do they live? What do they eat? What is a baby skunk called? What do they use their smell for? Create an informative poster about skunks by drawing a picture of a skunk in the middle of the poster and surrounding it with interesting facts.
- What is happening on the last page of the story? Have Woody's family accepted his differences? How are the characters feeling on this page? Look at their facial expressions and body language for clues.
- What does the reader know about Woody from reading the book? As a class list some describing words about him. Create a word cloud for Woody at www.abcya.com/word_clouds.
- Examine the illustrations of Woody's home. What do you think some of his family's interests are based on the items included in the illustrations?