

May 2016

Early Childhood

Teacher Notes and Activities

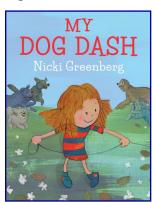
My Dog Dash

By Nicki Greenberg Publisher: Allen & Unwin ISBN 9781760110673 \$24.99

The hilarious adventures of Dash - a highly unusual pet who gets up to all kinds of mischief.

Dash is badly behaved at puppy school, he chews things that he shouldn't, he makes puddles on the floor, he wrecks the garden, and he steals food off the bench when no one is looking. Perfectly standard puppy behaviour. But Dash is far from an ordinary pet - and his inquisitive nature and insatiable appetite get him in all kinds of trouble.

A highly entertaining and hilarious picture book that celebrates the ups and downs of petownership - and the power of imagination.



Themes:

- Unusual Pets
- Pet ownership
- Imagination

Discussion Points:

- Looking at the front cover and the title, what do you think the story is about?
- Did you get a surprise once you read it?
- Why do you think the little girl thinks Dash is a dog?
- Do you think it is because she really wants a dog?
- What is the most unusual pet that you have ever had or that someone you know has had?
- Do you know anybody that has ever had a snail as a pet? What do you know about them? Do you think a snail would make a good pet? Why or why not?
- What are some of the things that you need to do and be prepared for when you own a pet?
- Do you think the Mum and Dad in the story are very happy about Dash? What clues do you have?
- How has colour (or lack of it) been used in this book to help tell the story and show emotions?

Activity:

• As a class, make a list of all the animals that you can think of that people usually keep as pets. Pick your favourite one and draw a picture of it.