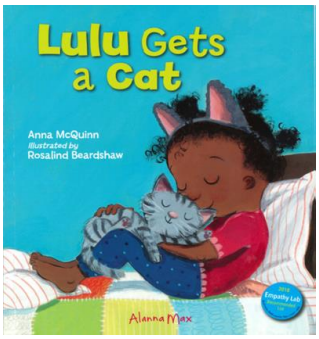
Power of Reading

CLPE

Take 5: Ideas for Independent/Home Learning
Lulu Gets a Cat by Anna McQuinn, illustrated by Rosalind Beardshaw (Alanna Max)



1. Explore it

Look at then read the spread from the book below. What is happening? What do you think you know about this girl? What do you think she is like? Look carefully at the illustration for clues.



Now, look carefully at the small details to find out more about Lulu. What is her bedroom like? What do you think she likes to do there? What time of day do you think it is? What makes you think this? What sorts of books does she like to read?

Look around Lulu's bedroom again and at what she is wearing. How do we know that she loves cats? Why do you think she love cats so much? Are any of the cats in this picture real? How do you know this? Do you have any special cuddly toys in your bedroom? What are they like? Why are they special to you? Do you think a real cat is the same as the toy cats on Lulu's bed? What is similar and what is different about a toy cat and a real cat?

Read the words on the page again. What does Lulu's mummy think about cats? Do you have a cat yourself, or another kind of pet? Have you ever met a cat? What are they like? What do they do? What do they feel like? What do owners of pets need to do?

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2. Illustrate it

Look again at the illustrations in the spread and the front cover. How many different kinds of toy cats can you spot? How would you describe them? What is different about each of them? What is the same about them? Can you draw a new toy cat for Lulu? What will it look like? What colour or pattern will it have? Look at the cats she already has; how will you make your cat different? Share your drawings with someone and talk about which is your favourite. What do you like about it? What is the difference between a toy cat and a real cat? Maybe you know someone with a cat? Talk to a grown up and ask them if they can help you find out more about cats.

3. Talk about it

- What is special about cats? Why might Lulu love them so much?
- Why do you think she wants a real cat as a pet? Why do people keep pets?
- Why do you think ***Mummy says looking after a cat is a lot of work***? What do you need to do to look after a cat?
- How do you think Lulu felt when her mummy said that looking after a cat is a lot of work? What do you think Lulu might say to her Mummy? What do you think she did next?

4. Imagine it

What kind of things does Lulu like to do for fun at home? In this picture, she is ready for bed. What do you think she does for her bedtime routine? Who else does it involve? Perhaps she listens to a bedtime story? What about in the daytime?

Imagine what kinds of games or activities she enjoys. How might it involve her toy cats? Can you draw or write about Lulu having fun at home? Does she do anything that you would enjoy too? Maybe you could imagine playing with Lulu and draw a picture of you both together.

5. Create it

What are you really interested in? What do you really love? Maybe you love cars or unicorns, dogs or football? Maybe you like to listen to stories or music? Maybe you like dressing up or playing make believe with your toys? Do you have a favourite story or love a character from your favourite television programme? Does anything make you laugh? Do you like to paint or sew or make models? Do you sing or dance? Do you love to run, ride your bike or play with balls? Do you like to sit quietly or do you enjoy being with lots of people best? Who are the special people in your life? Do you like to be inside or outdoors? Have your interests changed since you were a baby? Who could you ask about this?

You could create drawings showing you doing your favourite things. You might even have photographs that would help you to talk about the things you love. If you have a special toy, who gave it to you? If you have a special friendship, how did you make friends; what do you like to do together? Who taught you to ride a bike or cook? What kinds of things do you do with different members of your family? Somebody could help you write your stories down to help you remember them.

Create a special box in which you can keep a collection of personal objects, photographs, drawings to help you tell stories about yourself. You could decorate the box in a way that you think shows what you are most interested in. Who would you like to show it to? What would you like to talk about first?

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