



Fancy Nancy

Author: *Jane O'Connor*

Illustrator: *Robin Preiss Glasser*

Themes: Family, Individuality, Imagination, Word Meaning

Book Brief: Nancy loves everything fancy, but her family is plain and simple. She tries to teach them fancy ways, but a messy night changes everything.

READ ALOUD

Before Reading: Build Background

- Tell your child that Nancy loves "fancy" words. She says a fancy word, then explains it in plain words. Ask your child to listen for these pairs.
- Ask your child about a time they felt fancy or dressed up. What made it feel special?

While Reading: Make Connections

- What plain word means the same thing as "fuchsia"?
- When Nancy's family puts on accessories and goes out to dinner, ask your child about a special thing your family has done together.
- When Nancy trips and the tray flips, ask, "How does Nancy feel? Why does she want to go home?"

After Reading: Ask Questions

- Why do you think Nancy says "I love you" instead of a fancy word at the end? What does that tell us about what matters most?

RELATED ACTIVITIES

If your child enjoyed this book:

- Make a "Fancy Word" chart together. Pick three plain words your child says often, like "happy" or "big," and find a fancier word for each. Use them at dinner tonight.
- Read more Fancy Nancy books together, like:
 - [Fancy Nancy at the Museum \(I Can Read Level 1\) \(2008\)](#)
 - [The 100th Day of School: Fancy Nancy—I Can Read!™ \(2009\)](#)
 - [Fancy Nancy: There's No Day Like a Snow Day\(2012\)](#)