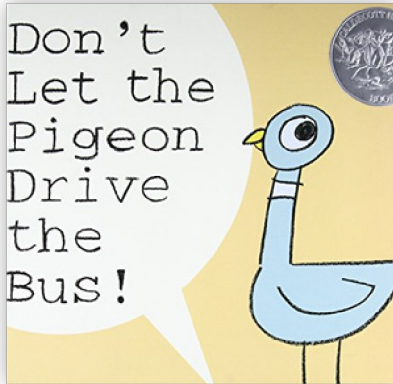




Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!

Author: Mo Willems

Illustrator: Mo Willems

Themes: Big feelings; Following rules; Persistence; Wants and limitations

Book Brief: When the bus driver steps away, he asks the reader to keep the pigeon from driving the bus. The pigeon tries every tactic: asking politely, bargaining, making excuses, and finally erupting while readers hold the line and say no.

READ ALOUD

Before Reading: Build Background

- Before you read, tell your child that the bus driver will ask them to help. The pigeon talks right to the reader, so your child can answer back.
- Talk about a time your child really wanted something but heard no. Ask how that felt. The pigeon feels the same way in this book.

While Reading: Make Connections

- When the pigeon asks to drive, help your child say no out loud.
- When the pigeon offers five dollars, ask if a rule can be broken for money.
- When the pigeon throws a fit about his dreams, ask how the pigeon feels now.

After Reading: Ask Questions

- Ask, "Why do you think it was smart to keep saying no to the pigeon?"

RELATED ACTIVITIES

If your child enjoyed this book:

- Make a pigeon puppet from a paper bag or a sock. Take turns acting out the story, letting your child be the pigeon who begs to drive.
- Read more pigeon books together:
 - [The Pigeon Finds a Hot Dog!](#) (2004)
 - [Don't Let the Pigeon Stay Up Late!](#) (2006)
 - [The Pigeon Needs a Bath!](#) (2014)