

Bad Kitty  
Written and illustrated by Nick Bruel  
Roaring Brook Press 2005

**About the author and illustrator**



Nick Bruel has written and illustrated many children's book, including Bad Kitty Gets a Bath, featuring Bad Kitty again. He is also a cartoonist living in New York. He is married with one child, a cat names Esmerelda. In his spare time, Bruel grows tomatoes and collects Pez dispensers.

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**Annotation**

Bruel, Nick. Bad Kitty. Roaring Book Press. 2005.

This is not your regular alphabet book. This is a story about a nice little kitty who one day learns that the only food in the house for her is healthy food. Upon thinking of the most disgusting healthy foods a to z she would possibly be served, Kitty takes a turn for the worse. This is when she becomes the bad kitty the author names the book after. Children will not only love this fun story, but they will also be quite entertained with the vivid and fun illustrations used.

**Art Medium**

Nick Bruel uses markers to illustrate this book.

**Genre**

Humorous Fiction Picture Storybook

**Point of View**

3<sup>rd</sup> person

**Setting**

This story takes place at Bad Kitty's house during all hours of the day.

**Theme**

Good things come to those who wait.

**Conflict**

Internal Conflict-One day, Kitty’s owners run out of food for her. She panicked at the thought of the things she would be stuck eating and began to tear up things in the house.

**Conflict Resolution**

Kitty’s owners come back from the store with food for her, so she decides to clean up the house.

**Characters**

Bad Kitty, a dog

**Interest/Reading Levels**

Interest Level: K-3

Reading Level: 2.3

**Booktalk**

**Bad Kitty** is fun and hilarious! This book made me laugh from beginning to end. The poor kitty in this story really just wants to eat her plain, old cat food. But when she discovers there is no more food for her to eat and the only thing left in the house is healthy food, she goes nuts! I mean, can you imagine what you would do without your favorite food in the house? Think about it. I wonder if you and Kitty would act the same way. There’s only one way to find out...you’ll just have to read for yourself.

**Language**

endangered (pg. 13)-put somebody or something at risk

grappled (pg. 13)-struggled or fought with someone

hurled (pg. 13)-threw very hard

loitered (pg. 14)-stood around and would not leave a place

tormented (pg. 16)-teased, bothered (like you might do to your brother or sister)

zeroed (pg. 18)-made them die

**Indiana Academic Standards**

English/LA: K.1.1, K.1.5, K.1.6, K.1.18, K.1.19, K.2.1, 1.1.2, 1.2.1, 1.3.1, 1.3.4, 2.2.6, 2.3.6, 3.1.3, 3.3.3

Science: 1.1.2, 1.1.3, 1.4.1

**Anticipation Statements**

	Agree or Disagree	Were you right or wrong?	Page Number	Reflect
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1. Cats do not care what they eat.				
2. Cats have emotions, like happiness and anger.				
3. Cats like to eat insect ice cream.				
4. Cats are similar to humans in some ways.				
5. Cats and dogs like each other.				

**“If you like, you’ll love...”**

Bad Kitty Gets a Bath by Nick Bruel

Poor Puppy by Nick Bruel

The War Between Vowels and Consonants by Priscilla Turner and  
illustrated by Whitney Turner

The Scrambled States of America by Laurie Keller

Open Wide: Tooth School Inside by Laurie Keller

**Across the Curriculum Connections**

- Ask the class to choose what their favorite color of cat is. Put the following choices on the board: gray, black, white, black and white, calico. Students can then come up and write their name under their choice. Finally, make a graph of the class favorites.

Standards

Math: 1.1.10, 2.1.12

- Have students draw an illustration of what they predict Bad Kitty will do Poor Puppy after he arrives. Underneath the picture, students can write a small caption describing their illustration.

Standards

English/LA: K.2.2, K.4.3, K.5.1, 1.7.10, 3.3.3

**Resources**

This website has some great ideas for discussion questions and follow-up

activities.

<http://ux1.eiu.edu/~psstorm/Monarch08/kitty.html>

This site has complete unit plan for Bad Kitty.

<http://suzyred.com/pbks2008badkitty.html>

### **Book Activities**

#### Activity One

##### Small Group Activity

Divide class into groups of 3-4 students. Then give them each a large piece of butcher paper to write on and a package of markers. Tell students they will be coming up with 26 new things for Kitty in this story. They can either think of 26 new foods Kitty would like to eat or 26 new things that Kitty does when she is upset. As the groups come up with their 26 things, they should write them on the large sheet of paper. They should also draw pictures to go along with each new idea. This should only take 30-45 minutes of class time. The following day students can share their ideas with the rest of the class. Then all the papers can be hung in the room or in the hallway for all to see.

Supplies: several large sheets of butcher paper, markers

#### Standards

English/LA: K.1.19, K.4.3, K.5.1, K.6.1, 1.4.1, 1.7.10, 2.5.5, 3.3.3

#### Activity Two

Have students create an alphabetic list of words or ways Kitty would describe Puppy in the sequel, if there was one. They must create 26 different adjectives or descriptions about Puppy. Once they have come up with their whole list, they will practice reading these with expression in front of the class. Allow students 1-2 days of class time (20 minutes each) and a couple nights at home to practice. Then have them share with the class.

#### Standards

English/LA: K.1.19, K.4.3, K.5.1, K.7.2, 1.5.4, 2.4.3, 2.5.5

### **Discussion Questions**

#### Pre-Reading

(cover) Why do you think the kitty in this story is bad?

(cover) What kinds of things do you think the kitty will do in this story?

Do any of you have a kitty at home? Is he or she good or bad?

#### During Reading

(page 3) What do you think will happen next?

(page 11) Uh oh! What is Kitty going to do?

(page 16) What do you think quarreled means?

#### Post-Reading

How do you think Kitty will react to the new puppy?

Have your animals at home ever done any of these things in your house?

Did you like Kitty or not?

**Bibliography**

Author's Website

[www.nickbruel.com](http://www.nickbruel.com)

Amazon Website

<http://www.amazon.com/Bad-Kitty-Nick-Bruel/dp/1596430699>

Book Information

<http://www.answers.com/topic/nick-bruel>