

The Bake Shop Ghost
Written by Jacqueline K. Ogburn
Illustrated by Marjorie Priceman
Houghton Mifflin Company
Boston 2005

About the Author



Jacqueline K. Ogburn has been interested in books from very early on in life, so it was no surprise to her mother that she became a children's author.

She began her work as an editor before she eventually moved to North Carolina to raise her three children. This is also where she began writing books. Since then, she has written several books, including The Bake Shop Ghost, The Reptile Ball, and The Magic Nesting Doll. Her inspiration for this story came from "The Devil Went Down in Georgia", a song by Charlie Daniels. When not writing, Ogburn enjoys spending time with her husband and two daughters still at home.

About the Illustrator



Marjorie Priceman had her debut in 1989 with Friend or Frog and has since illustrated many children's book, including Katie Couric's The Brand New Kid. Although she took a sabbatical, she is now back to work. In her drawings, she uses a mixture of watercolor and free flowing lines. Her illustrations have won her several awards, including at Caldecott Honor and a Young Hoosier Book Award nomination.

Annotation

Ogburn, Jacqueline K. The Bake Shop Ghost. Houghton Mifflin Company. Boston 2005.

If you are looking for a sweet story about how small things make all the difference, this is the book for you. This story tells of a grumpy baker in town who dies and then comes back to haunt her shop. Until one day, a fellow baker finally breaks the curse. This story shows

children how to be kind to others and is full of colorful and whimsical illustrations that will keep their attention.

Genre

Mystery and Detective Fiction Picture Storybook

Point of View

3rd person

Setting

This story takes place over the course of a couple months in the Merriweather Bake Shop during the day and night.

Theme

Sometimes it's the small things that make a big difference.

Conflict

External Conflict-Mrs. Merriweather haunts her bake shop after she dies and will not let anyone bake in it. She fights against each new person who buys it.

Conflict Resolution

Finally, Annie Washington figures out the secret. All Mrs. Merriweather has ever wanted is for someone to bake her a birthday cake. Annie does this and the haunting is finally over.

Characters

Miss Cora Lee Merriweather, Gerda Stein, Frederico Spinelli, Sophie Kristoff, Annie Washington

Interest/Reading Level

Interest Level: Ages 3-7

Reading Level: 3.8

Booktalk

It is an all-out war in the Merriweather Bake Shop after Miss Cora Lee dies.

After baking cakes for many, many years, Cora Lee has passed on. And even though she no longer bakes in her shop, she is bound and determined to see to it that no one else every gets the chance to. That is, until Annie Washington moves in. Cora Lee has finally met her match! Annie has no intentions of being pushed out of her newly purchased bake shop, and she will do anything to prove that to Cora Lee. Will she ever succeed? Will Annie Washington ever find peace to be able to keep her bake shop?

Language

petits fours (pg. 2)-very small sweet cakes
luscious (pg. 5)-rich and sweet with a juicy taste
scorched (pg. 6)- very burnt
clanked (pg. 6)-made a loud noise, like a bang
staggered (pg. 8)- walked in a wobbly manner

marzipan (pg. 9)- a paste made of almond
 hovering (pg. 15)-floating in the air
 devoured (pg. 21)-quickly ate it all up
 brimming (pg. 26)-shining brightly

Indiana Academic Standards

English/LA: K.1.1, K.2.1, K.2.2, K.3.3, 1.1.16, 1.2.1, 1.2.3, 1.3.1, 1.3.2,
 2.1.6, 3.1.6, 3.3.3, 3.3.4, 3.3.8
 Science: K.1.2, K.3.1, 1.2.6

Anticipation Statements

| | Agree or Disagree | Were you right? | Page Number | Reflect |
|---|-------------------|-----------------|-------------|---------|
| 1. This story will be about a ghost who lives in a bake shop. | | | | |
| 2. Bakeries have a variety of baked goods. | | | | |
| 3. Ghosts are real. | | | | |
| 4. No birthday is complete without a cake. | | | | |

“If you like, you’ll love...”

Across the Curriculum Connections

- Bring to class your favorite family recipe for cake, brownies, or another baked goodie. Then, figure out how to both double the recipe and cut it in half. Creating a recipe book of these items makes a terrific holiday present to parents.

Standards

Math: 3.2.3, 3.2.4, 3.2.5, 3.2.6, 3.6.8

- In pairs, read the story again and use sticky notes to mark at least five terrific examples of memorable details. Then write a description of your favorite restaurant and try your hand at creating your own platter of

delicious details.

Standards

English/LA: 3.2.3, 3.2.4, 3.2.5, 3.2.6, 3.4.1, 3.5.4, 3.6.5

Resources

This is a link to a teacher guide for The Bake Shop Ghost.

http://www.teachervision.fen.com/tv/printables/hmco/BakeShopGhost_TG.pdf

This is another story about a ghost. It can be read to the class and used to compare and contrast with The Bake Shop Ghost.

Delton, Judy. Camp Ghost-Away (Pee Wee Scouts). Reed Business Information, Inc. 1988.

Book Activities

Activity One

Individual Activity

After reading both Camp Ghost-Away and The Bake Shop Ghost, have students compare and contrast the two stories. Draw a large Venn diagram on the board and have students copy this onto a piece of paper. Fill it out together on the board. Then have students write two paragraphs, one comparing the two stories, and the other contrasting them. Have them trade, revise, and then make corrections. This should take about 30-45 minutes of class time.

Supplies: Venn diagram on board, pencil, paper, pen

Standards

English/LA: K.4.2, K.4.3, 1.4.3, 2.2.7, 2.3.1, 2.4.2, 3.4.2, 3.4.3, 3.4.9, 3.4.6, 3.4.8

Activity Two

Individual Activity

After reading The Bake Shop Ghost, encourage students to think about their favorite cakes and what goes into making them. Then have each student create a recipe for a new cake. Students need to list all ingredients and quantities and baking directions. Then put all of these recipes into one big book of class cake recipes. The class will love to view these over and over again.

Supplies: paper, markers, crayons, recipe books

Standards

Science: K.1.2, 1.2.7, 2.5.1, 3.2.6

English/LA: K.4.3, 1.4.2, 1.5.5

Discussion Questions

Pre-Reading

(cover) What do you think this story will be about?

Have you ever been in a bake shop? What kinds of things do you see there?
(cover) What is an illustrator? What does it look like the author uses to draw
the pictures in this story?

During Reading

(page 2) What kinds of cakes did Cora Lee make?

(page 5) Who do you think will buy the shop?

(page 11) What do you think Cora Lee will do to Annie Washington?

(page 23) Do you think Annie will ever make a cake that Cora Lee likes? If
so, what kind do you think it will be?

Post-Reading

How do you think Annie came up with the idea to make Cora Lee a birthday
cake?

Can you think of another name for the bake shop now that Annie owns it?

Bibliography

Illustrator Information

http://www.storybookart.com/meet_mpriceman.html

Photo of Illustrator

<http://www.simonsays.com/content/destination.cfm?tab=22&pid=357067>

Author Information

<http://www.wincbooks.com/jogburn.htm>

Photo of Author

http://images.google.com/images?hl=en&q=picture+of+jacqueline+k.+ogburn&um=1&ie=UTF-8&sa=X&oi=image_result_group&resnum=1&ct=title

Activity Ideas

http://www.teachervision.fen.com/tv/printables/hmco/BakeShopGhost_TG.pdf