

Reading Roundup

Happy Dreamer

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Introduction

While the world tells us to sit still, to follow the rules, and to color inside the lines, Happy Dreamer celebrates all those moments in between when the mind and spirit soar and we are free to become our own true dreamer maximus! This picture book reminds children of how much their dreams matter, and while life will have ups and downs, he enlists readers to stay true to who they are, to tap into their most creative inner selves, and to never ever forget to dream big!

Before Reading

- *Dreams don't only happen while we're asleep. Happy Dreamer tells the story of a young boy who dreams while he's awake. P- What do you think it means to be a dreamer?* (When I think of a dreamer, I think of someone who spends time thinking about things they would like to see happen or things they would like to do).
- *I'm wondering what makes the boy a happy dreamer. You may be wondering about that, too. Let's read to find out.*

Reading Roundup
Partners



During Reading

- Begin reading the book by starting on the title page. Hold the book so that students are able to see the illustrations. Give plenty of time for students to “read” and think about the pictures. Continue to read through page 11.

- **Pages 11** *Show me how to be a quiet dreamer. Stay still and listen to yourself think. You may want to close your eyes to help you listen to your dream.* Resist temptation to rush this part. Allow 15-20 seconds for students to quietly dream. Continue reading through page 21.

- **Page 20 P** - *Sometimes, the boy dreams while sleeping. Look at the floor around the boy's bed. What do you think he might be dreaming about tonight?* (The illustration tells us that the boy is dreaming about playing a guitar, playing soccer or having his very own soccer ball, being an astronaut, eating a whole pizza all by himself...).

- **Page 21 T/T** - *Listen to the words and look at the illustration. Turn and talk to your partner about why the boy is sweeping away his dreams.* (Probably an adult or someone who can tell him what to do told him to stop wasting time by dreaming.) **P** - *What words did the author use to make you think that?* (If you make me, I will put my things away.)

- **Page 22 P** - *Look at the illustration of the boy. What does the illustrator do to tell us how the boy feels about putting his things (dreams) away?* (The illustrator helps the reader understand that the boy is upset.)



After Reading

- Turn back to the fold-out page describing different kinds of dreamers. Read the different ways students might be happy. **T/T** – *Turn and talk to your partner about what makes you happy?*

- *Does dreaming of ice cream make you happy? How about sunshine, or taking a nap? Maybe, music or dancing makes you happy....*

- *What kind of dreamer are you? Are you a quiet dreamer, loud dreamer, creative dreamer...?*

Remember, the best way to be a dreamer is to be the best you. Follow your happy dreams and work hard to make them come true.

Vocabulary

Maximus – best, biggest p. 3

Chaos – crazy messiness p. 20

Dedicated to you – written for, or because of you p. 31

**WORD
WAGON**