



Reading Roundup

Magician's Hat

Written by Malcolm Mitchell
Illustrated by Joannie Lew-Vriet



Reading Roundup
Partners



Introduction

Gather the students around you so that they are able to see the illustrations of the book. Most classrooms will have an area rug defining this space. Introduce yourself and tell the students that you are excited to share The Magician's Hat, written by Malcolm Mitchell and illustrated by Joannie Lew-Vriethoff.

Before Reading

The author of this book is a professional football player. His name is Malcolm Mitchell, and he played for the Super Bowl Champions, the New England Patriots. As a child he struggled as a reader and had a terrible time finding a book he could read – or wanted to read. One day, Malcolm decided he would work just as hard to be a better reader as he worked at playing football. He often wonders if reading would have been easier for him if he had found a book about football and spent time reading about sports.

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 7.

- **Pages 6-7** – *This isn't your average family fun day at the local library. Take a moment to look at all of the fun things happening.* -P- *What do you see?* (There are readers sitting in a book-lined swimming pool, a pirate telling stories, families reading together, books hanging from the tree....)

- **Pages 14-15** -P- *“...one special book jumped out at me.” Why do you think the book about magic “jumped out” at him?* (Even when he was young, the magician was interested in magic.)

- **Page 19** -T/T- *Take a moment to look at the illustration. Everyone saw Amy hugging her book and smiling, but what was she seeing in her mind? Why did she love this book so much? Turn and talk to a partner about this.* (Amy imagined herself as a dentist. She had her own office, dental tools, and patients. She loved this book because it was about something that she was interested in.)

- **Page 25** -P- *Ryan believes the magician is a fake and wants to prove it. He finally pulls a beautiful book out of the hat. What do you think he pulls out of the magic hat? Is it a book about being a dog when he grows up? What is your prediction?* (Answers will vary. The magician looks like he's going to surprise Ryan.)

- **Page 29** -T/T- *Was your prediction correct? I wonder how the magician knew Ryan wanted to be an astronaut. Turn and talk to someone about your thoughts.* (Maybe the magician knows the children and knew about Ryan's interest in astronauts.)

After Reading

Do you think we could all be reading magicians? What if we got to know each other well enough that we could recommend books to each other because we know what interests our classmates. -T/T- *Think about what you would like to be when you grow up. Turn and talk to someone about that. Turn and talk to someone about your dreams for when you are grown. Tell them what you want to learn or about what interests you.* (Encourage students to share what they want to do when they grow up.)

Remember – One of the things we learn as readers is that not every book is perfect for us. It's okay to start a book and then set it aside if it's not interesting. It's fun to read about topics that interest us or to read books with characters similar to us. As you get to know each other better, you might find that you and a classmate enjoy the same book.

Vocabulary

Scavenger hunt – race to find things p. 7, 12

Dazzle – fascinate p. 11

Vanished – disappeared p. 11

Snicker – little laugh p.25

Hurling – moving fast p. 30

**WORD
WAGON**

