

Monster Needs His Sleep

BY PAUL CZAJAK * ILLUSTRATED BY WENDY GRIEB

Growing up with Monster is fun! He has all sorts of things to learn and experience for the first time, and the young boy who takes care of him will help him along the way. Written in humorous, read-aloud verse, the Monster & Me™ series makes growing up a whole lot easier and a lot more interesting.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Paul Czajak got an “F” with the words “get a tutor” on his college writing paper and after that, never thought he’d become a writer. But after spending twenty years as a chemist, he knew his creativity could no longer be contained. Living in Massachusetts with his wife, and two little monsters, Paul has rediscovered his passion for writing and looks forward to sharing his stories for years to come.



ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Wendy Grieb is a storyboard artist, Illustrator, and teacher. She has worked on a variety of productions and won an Annie Award for storyboarding in 2004. She has also been an animation development artist, children’s book illustrator, and character designer for companies such as Disney, Nickelodeon, Sony, Klasky-Csupo, Mighty Media Press, White Wolf, and more. She was a storyboard artist at Disney TV for sixteen years and has worked on Disney’s hit TV show *Phineas and Ferb*. She also teaches animation at California State University–Fullerton.

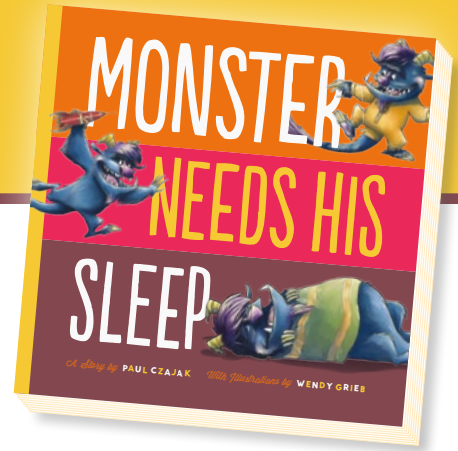


ABOUT THIS GUIDE

The material in this Educator’s Activity Guide was created by Michele Pickel, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Education at Concordia University, St. Paul, MN utilizing *Monster Needs His Sleep* by Paul Czajak as part of her early literacy teaching curriculum and written in collaboration with Karen Latchana Kenney.

Michele Pickel is a Horse Powered Reading Instructor and EAGALA Advanced Certified Equine Specialist (www.crosspranch.com). She is also a Licensed PK-6 teacher with K-12 reading endorsement, Coordinator of Lutheran Classroom Teacher Program, and afterschool PLUS Time facilitator. For more information please contact Mighty Media, info@mightymedia.com, 1201 Currie Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55403, 612-455-0252.

EDUCATOR'S ACTIVITY GUIDE



Read It!

ABOUT THE BOOK

It's time for bed, and Monster needs to go to sleep. But he just keeps finding more things to stay awake for! It isn't until Monster admits he is afraid of the dark that he finds a glowing solution to his nightmare problem. In this playful, rhyming story, Monster shows young readers that with a little help from a friend, the dark isn't that scary after all.



BEFORE YOU READ

- ▶ Watch the book trailer for *Monster Needs His Sleep* as a class. Find it here: <http://mightymediapress.com/store/monster-needs-his-sleep/>
- ▶ Ask students to recall a time when they didn't want to go to bed. Have each student write a short description of that time. Share experiences as a class or in small groups.
- ▶ Take a quick picture walk through the book. Ask: *What does it look like Monster thinks he needs to do?* Write answers on the board.
- ▶ Read the glossary words and their definitions. Ask students to look for the words as they read.



GLOSSARY

aglow (uh-GLOH) Glowing with warmth.

canary (kuh-NAIR-ee) A bright, yellow bird that is known for its song.

creature (KREE-chur) A living being, person, or animal.

dramatically (druh-MAT-ik-lee) To do something in a way so that others will notice.

emphatically (em-FAT-ik-lee) To do something in a way so that it clearly stands out because you think it is important.

fangs (FANGZ) Long, pointed teeth.

lieu (LU) Instead.

negotiating (ni-GOH-she-ate-ing) Bargaining or discussing something in order to come to an agreement.

oppose (uh-POZE) To be against something and try to stop it from happening.

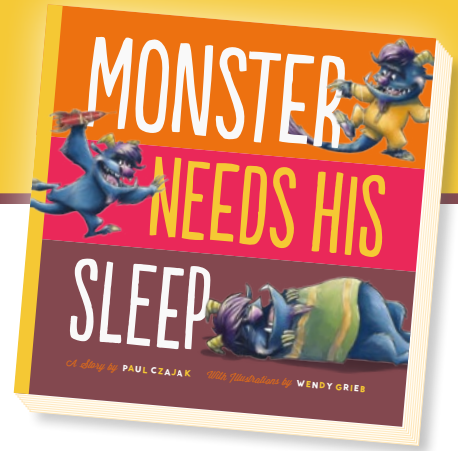
parched (PARCHD) Very dry or thirsty.

pleasure (PLEZH-ur) A feeling of enjoyment.

procrastinating (proh-KRASS-tuh-nate-ing) Putting off something that you have to do because you do not want to do it.

symphony (SIM-fuh-nee) A large orchestra.

EDUCATOR'S ACTIVITY GUIDE



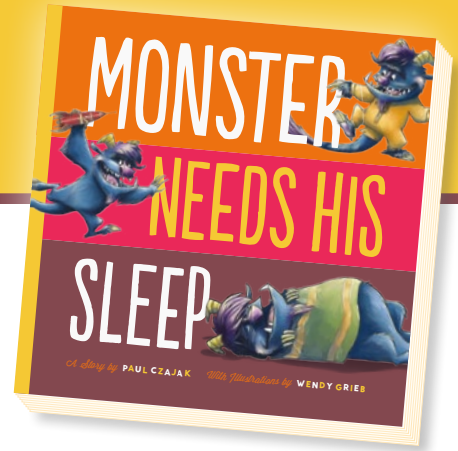
Know It!

DISCUSS THE BOOK

- ▶ **Monstrous Word Blanks:** Explain to students that some of the words used in the book are difficult to understand for young readers. Seeing those words used in sentences along with high interest illustrations helps readers understand their meanings. Watch the short video at www.elementary.com, to see how the advanced vocabulary used in the Monster & Me™ books challenges young readers to become better problem solvers and quicker thinkers. Ask students to complete the “Monstrous Word Blanks” worksheet on page 7. They must fill in the story’s blank spaces using the monstrous words in the word bank.
- ▶ **Breaking News:** Have students pretend to be news reporters. Ask them to prepare a list of questions for Monster or the boy. Pair students together to answer each other’s questions. They should ask the who, what, where, when, why, and how questions about the story. Then tell students to write a news story retelling the events of the book.
- ▶ **I’d Rather ... :** In the book, Monster is procrastinating about going to bed. Explain to students that “procrastinating” means to put off doing something. Tell students that they will be pretending to procrastinate. Ask them to fill out the “I’d Rather ... ” worksheet on page 9. Challenge students to think of some really wacky and unusual things they’d rather do. Invite them to pick their favorite phrase and illustrate it.



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WRITE ABOUT IT

› **Make It Rhyme:** Rhyming is a way to play with words. You experiment with word combinations to make the rhyme fit. Point out to students the different rhymes used in *Monster Needs His Sleep*. Here are some examples:

- › play/away
- › sleep/sheep
- › sack/snack
- › weepy/creepy

Ask students to complete the “Make It Rhyme” worksheet on page 8 to create a new rhyming spread for *Monster Needs His Sleep*.

› **Book Summary:** Have students write a paragraph to summarize the book. In their summaries, students should retell important parts of the story. They should also explain the reason why Monster procrastinates about going to bed.

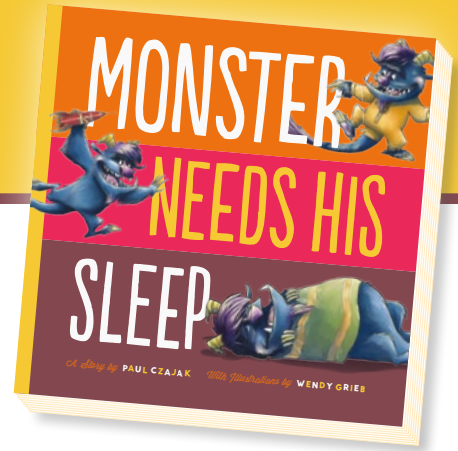
› **Research Project:** Find out more about sleep and being afraid of the dark. Put students in small groups and provide books or Internet access for their research. Ask students to find some interesting information about being afraid of the dark or sleep routines. Give them a few questions to start their research (Have any famous people been afraid of the dark? What are some bedtime rituals for people in China or Australia?) Ask students to create a poster that illustrates their unusual information. Make sure the poster includes textual and visual data.



MAP IT OUT

- › **Monster's Bedtime:** What's Monster's bedtime routine? Look through the book to find out the steps he takes before he's ready for sleep. Then fill out the steps in the correct order on page 10.
- › **Central Message:** What's the central message of *Monster Needs His Sleep*? Ask students to fill out the graphic organizer on page 11. On it they will recall details from the story in order to figure out the book's central message.

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Try It!

FUN ACTIVITIES

- › **Read-A-Thon:** Have a classroom “I Don’t Want to Sleep” Read-A-Thon. Find a charity the class would like to donate to as a group. Provide students with copies of the pledge sheet on page 12. Ask them to find donors for the Read-A-Thon. Suggest asking family and friends. Give students a week to read as many books as they can. For fun, give the student who reads the most books a gift of a nightlight.
- › **Pajama Party:** Plan a pajama party day. Ask students to wear their PJs to school and bring their favorite bedtime book. Bring sheets to sit on for story time. Invite students to read their bedtime stories to each other.
- › **Monster-naut’s Adventures:** Imagine Monster really was a Monster-naut. Ask students to write a story describing one of his adventures in space on page 13. They should describe where he goes and what he sees. Encourage students to include specific and imaginative details.
- › **Cooldest Nightlight:** Tell students to design the coolest nightlight for Monster. Provide tissue paper, poster board, paint, tape, and other crafting materials. Give each student an LED candle to use as a light.
- › **Bedtime Show and Tell:** Ask students to bring in something that helps them go to bed. Suggest that they bring a favorite stuffed animal, blanket, book, or nightlight. Have a show and tell where students can explain what it is they brought and why it is important to them.

CONNECT

- › Watch the movie *Bedtime Stories*. Ask students to pick their favorite bedtime story from the movie. Ask: *What would you do if your bedtime stories came true?*
- › Read the poem “Bed in Summer” by Robert Louis Stevenson. This poem can be found here: <http://www.poetryfoundation.org/poem/171943> It describes how bedtime is different depending on the seasons. Ask students to think about how the seasons affect their bedtime routines.
- › Read *The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark* by Jill Tomlinson or *Can’t You Sleep Little Bear?* by Martin Waddell. Ask students to compare the story with *Monster Needs His Sleep*. How are the books similar or different?



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EXPLORE MORE

Visit the following Web sites to learn more about bedtime routines and sleep:

› My Bedtime, PBS Kids

<http://pbskids.org/daniel/games/my-bedtime/>

Visit this site to play a game about bedtime routines.

› Sleep For Kids

<http://www.sleepforkids.org>

Find out about sleep, what to do if you can't sleep, and dreams on this site.

› Time for Bed, KidsHealth

http://kidshealth.org/kid/bed_game_source.html

Play a game about sleeping on this site.

› What Sleep Is and Why All Kids Need It, KidsHealth

http://kidshealth.org/kid/stay_healthy/body/not_tired.html

Read about sleep and why it is important on this site.



COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS

The activities and discussion questions in this guide support the following Common Core State Standards.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.7	Participate in shared research and writing projects (e.g., read a number of books on a single topic to produce a report; record science observations).
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.8	Recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question.
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.1	Ask and answer such questions as who, what, where, when, why, and how to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text.
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.2	Recount stories, including fables and folktales from diverse cultures, and determine their central message, lesson, or moral.
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.4	Describe how words and phrases (e.g., regular beats, alliteration, rhymes, repeated lines) supply rhythm and meaning in a story, poem, or song.
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.7	Use information gained from the illustrations and words in a print or digital text to demonstrate understanding of its characters, setting, or plot.

MONSTER NEEDS HIS SLEEP

Monstrous Word Blanks

In this book, many monstrous words are used. They might seem difficult to understand at first. But there are clues to these words' meanings. Just read each of the sentences! They'll help you understand those scary words.

A word blank story is missing some words. You need to look at the words that are there to guess the words that are missing. Here's a fun word blank story for you to finish. Pick a monstrous word from the word bank at the bottom of the page. Then fill in the story.

* * * * *

One day I met a furry [] named Frank walking in the park. He []
told me that he was soooooo []. He began [] for a drink of my
water. I said, "Of course, it's my []. You may have a drink." Frank thanked me
[]. Then he grabbed a [] to share from his backpack. He spread
a [] on the ground and we sat and munched on carrots and raspberries
together. Soon a yellow [] sat beside us and sang a simple song. But to us it
sounded like a []. Soon it made us drowsy as we listened to the tune. Then
Frank showed me his fierce [] as he []. His eyelids began to droop. His
head fell on his paws. Soon Frank's loud [] drowned out the little bird's song.

BLANKET

CANARY

CREATURE

DRAMATICALLY

EMPHATICALLY

FANGS

NEGOTIATING

PARCHED

PLEASURE

SNACK

SNORE

SYMPHONY

YAWNED

MONSTER NEEDS HIS SLEEP

Make It Rhyme

Create a new spread for *Monster Needs His Sleep*! Pick a pair of rhyming words from below. Then write the spread's text using the rhyming words. Add drawings to illustrate your new spread.

AWAKE/SNAKE

GROUND/SOUND

CRAWL/FOOTBALL

BACK/TACK

BAND/DEMAND

CHAIR/SQUARE

THREAD/INSTEAD

FISH/SWISH

BEWARE/DECLARE

The image shows a large, open book template. It has two facing pages that are mostly blank, with a central gutter. At the bottom of each page, there are five horizontal lines for writing. The book is depicted with a slight 3D effect, showing the edges of the pages and a dark binding at the bottom.

MONSTER NEEDS HIS SLEEP

I'd Rather ...

What would you rather do? Pretend you are procrastinating, just like Monster in *Monster Needs His Sleep*.

Complete the following sentences with ideas of what you'd rather do.

Try to think of some really fun examples!

1. I'd rather _____, than brush my teeth.
2. Instead of cleaning my room, I'd rather _____.
3. I like going to school, but I'd rather _____.
4. I'd rather _____ than take a bath.
5. Eating meatloaf for dinner is okay, but I'd rather _____.
6. Cleaning up my toys is not that fun. I'd rather _____.
7. Instead of washing dishes, I'd rather _____.
8. Taking out the garbage kind of stinks! I'd rather _____.



MONSTER NEEDS HIS SLEEP

Monster's Bedtime

Monster has a routine when he goes to bed. He follows certain steps before he's ready to go to sleep.
Look through the book to figure out those steps. Then write them in order below.

STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS

FIRST	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
	↓
NEXT	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
	↓
NEXT	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
	↓
LAST	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

MONSTER NEEDS HIS SLEEP

Central Message

STORY TITLE:

AUTHOR:

MAIN CHARACTERS:

SETTING:

IN THE BEGINNING:

IN THE MIDDLE:

AT THE END:

THE CENTRAL MESSAGE:



MONSTER NEEDS HIS SLEEP

“I Don’t Want to Sleep” Read-A-Thon Pledge Sheet

[illegible]

MONSTER NEEDS HIS SLEEP

Monster-naut's Adventures

TITLE: _____ BY: _____

