

It's All the Cat's Fault

A Guide for Teachers and Parents



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THEMES

SEL

Family & Friends

SUB-THEMES

Responsibility

Cause & Effect

Humor & Imagination

Story Discussion Guide

- Understand the impact of homelessness on children.
- Recognize global housing insecurity and its effect on education.
- Reflect on social exclusion and bullying due to poverty.
- Cultivate empathy and respect for all peers. Inspire strength and hope in children facing hardship.

Lesson Plan

- Before Reading: Discuss creative excuses.
- During Reading: Track cause-and-effect and predictions.
- After Reading: Explore responsibility and alternative choices
- Activities: Sequencing, role-play, silly excuses, responsibility charts.

Learning Outcome

- Identify the sequence of events and recognize cause-and-effect.
- Understand how actions can affect others.
- Retell the story in sequence.
- Use imagination to create humorous excuses.
- Express feelings and reactions to unexpected events.
- Reflect on responsibility and truthfulness.
- Appreciate that children everywhere make creative excuses.

Warm-Up Questions:

- Have you ever forgotten something important?
- Have you ever given a funny excuse?
- Why do people make excuses?

During Reading : – Pause to Ask:

- Why does the boy want to rescue the cat?
- Predict what might happen next.
- What happened next?
- How does one event cause another?

After Reading–:- Discussion Questions:

- Which part was the funniest?
- Was the boy telling the truth or exaggerating?
- Why is responsibility important?
- Is it okay to make silly excuses sometimes?
- How do our actions affect others?

Activities:

1. Cause-and-Effect Story Chain Children arrange story events in sequence.
2. Create Your Own Silly Excuse Write or draw a playful excuse using 3 chain-reaction events
- . 3. Role-Play: Teacher & Student Act out the excuse scene with sound effects.
4. Responsibility Reflection Chart Children write one responsible action they will take.
5. Animal Antics Puppets Create puppets of the cat, monkey, dog, and baby to retell the story.
6. Chain Reaction STEAM Experiment Build a simple domino chain to visualize cause-and-effect

Expected Outcomes

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- Reflect on responsibility and truthfulness.
- Appreciate that children everywhere make creative excuses.

Applicable SDGs

SDG 4 – Quality Education

ABOUT ZAMASAMA

Zamasama is a nonprofit platform that brings together stories from around the world to help children discover that beneath our differences—of culture, language, or belief—we share the same hopes, joys, and dreams. Today's children are tomorrow's citizens, and the responsibility of building a more peaceful, tolerant, and empathetic world lies with them. That's why it's vital to instill these values early—through stories that help them rise above the biases they inherit, and see diversity as a strength that unites us all.