

Martha Walks the Dog

About the Story

There's a new dog in town and he is loud and mean! Steak, squeaky toys, soothing music—nothing seems to calm him down.

Special Words

pleasant: *Pleasant* things are nice. They make you happy.

unpleasant: *Unpleasant* things are not nice. They make you sad or angry.

compliment: A *compliment* is a nice thing that you say to someone, like: *Your drawing looks great!* Or *Good job!*

bully: A *bully* is someone who acts mean and bossy.

Materials

Game: Choose and Chat

Book: _____

Reading Buddies Journal

Pencils, markers, scissors

Watch Together: “Martha Walks the Dog”

- Watch the show with your Little Buddy.
- Listen for the “special” words.
- Find a place where you and your Little Buddy can talk, play, and read together.

Talk and Play Together

Talk about these questions with your Little Buddy. Share your ideas, too.

- *Bob was a **bully** to Martha and Helen. What **unpleasant** things did he do?*
- *When the parrot began to give Bob **compliments**, Bob calmed down and got happy. What **pleasant** things did the parrot say to Bob?*
- *What was your favorite part of the story?*

Game: Choose and Chat

1. Place the eight game cards face down on a desk or on the floor.
2. Explain the rules to your Little Buddy.
 - Your Little Buddy will choose a card. You will read the card aloud.
 - Both you and your Little Buddy will answer the question.
3. Try to use one of the special words in your answer. For example, *Getting a present would be a **pleasant** surprise.*
4. Take turns choosing cards until all eight cards have been played.

Before meeting with your Little Buddy, work with your Big Buddy partner to:

- Read and role-play the session plan.
- Cut out the cards and play the Choose and Chat game.
- Read the selected book aloud. Ask and answer the questions.
- Review the *Journal* activity.

Read Together

Read the story aloud. Use the special words from the MARTHA SPEAKS show as you talk about these questions with your Little Buddy. Share your ideas, too.

- What was the most unpleasant thing that happened in this story?
- Did any character act like a bully? Describe what the character did.
- Show me your favorite picture in the book. What do you like best about it?

Write Together

- Look at the picture in the Reading Buddies Journal.
- Ask your Little Buddy: Do you think Bob's owner is saying **pleasant** or **unpleasant** things to Bob? Why do you think so?
- Read the instructions aloud: Bob's owner is giving Bob **compliments**. Bob thinks this is very **pleasant**! What is Bob's owner saying? Write the words.
- Write your Little Buddy's words in the Journal.



What a
bully!