

Madison Mattera

Professor Farrell-Garcia

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We Don't Eat Our Classmates Assignment

If you ever need a story that could put a smile on your face, I recommend *We don't eat our Classmates* by Ryan T. Higgins. This book is very uplifting and a very wholehearted story about a little T-rex trying to make human friends. She has some trouble making friends because her classmates look so good to "eat". The term eat is seen as literal in the story but, it is teaching a lesson about showing empathy, getting along with her classmates, and following the rules.

Penelope is a little young T-rex dinosaur who is trying to try to make new friends in her class. She did not know her classmates were going to be children, "so she ate them. Because children are delicious" (page 8). Penelope is having a hard time adjusting to this new experience. Her father had packed her "three hundred tuna sandwiches" (page 4), but she still ended up hungry. The concept of 'hungry' in this book is not actually about eating students, it has a deeper meaning. The author of this book did a play on words to make it look and seem like eating her classmates had the entire meaning. Where the meaning of the word eat relates to Penelope showing empathy for her classmates. She at first, is unable to see that what she was doing was wrong until it happened to her with the class goldfish. Penelope tried to make friends with the goldfish because her classmates did not want to be around her. When she went to pet the goldfish it bites her, and now she knew how it felt for her classmates. This concept shows the empathy she has for her classmates when she would eat them.