

WALTER THE FARTING DOG

K-3

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Story Summary

Walter is a wonderful dog, except for one small problem. He has gas and he just can't help it. It's just the way he is. Fortunately, Billy and Betty love him in spite of his gas problem. Father says he must go because he is smelling up the house. Poor Walter. He's going back to the dog pound tomorrow. How will he escape this terrible fate? You will surely be laughing as you find out!

Objectives

1. To encourage empathy for animals and people who may have a problem similar to Walter's.
2. To reinforce tolerance for behaviors that are difficult to change.
3. To reinforce that it is fine to have a sense of humor about some things that may be embarrassing.

Before viewing the video

Tell the children that they are going to see a video about a dog named Walter who has a problem; he farts a lot and some of the family members think he just smells up the house too much. Think about how you feel when people or animals you love have some habits that annoy you. Think about some habits that you might have that annoy other people. You will see how Walter tries and tries to solve his problem but just can't seem to do it.

Questions to ask after viewing the video

1. Betty and Billy got Walter from the dog pound. Why do you think other people may have brought him there?
2. What was the first clue that his bath was not going to take Walter's bad smell away?
3. Why did the family think that a trip to the Veterinarian might be helpful?
4. What did the family do to follow the veterinarian's advice?
5. What did Walter try to do when Betty and Billy told him he would have to go back to the dog pound?
6. How did Walter feel after he ate an entire bag of low-fart dog biscuits?
7. When the two strangers came in to the house, what did they plan to do?
8. How did Walter's farting finally help the family?
9. How was Walter rewarded?

Activities

1. Have a class discussion about what they think was the funniest part of the book. Illustrate and write a sentence about "Walter was funniest when..."
2. Have a class discussion about habits the children have that their parents or siblings are trying to change. What do people say to them and what do they wish people would say to them? How would you like to be told about your annoying habits?
3. Create a story about another annoying habit that has a happy ending. Use Walter's story as a model.