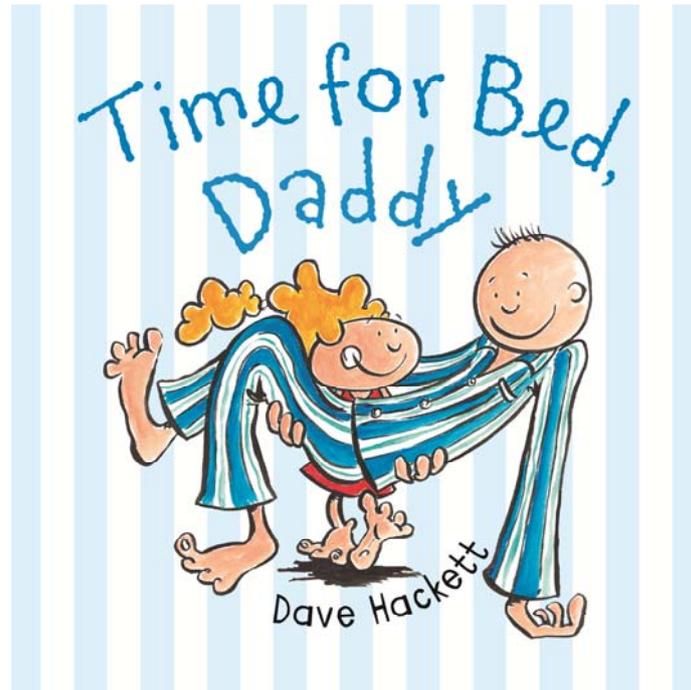


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TIME FOR BED, DADDY

Dave Hackett



Teachers' Notes

Written by a practising teacher librarian
in context with the Australian curriculum
(English)

ISBN: 978 0 7022 5381 2 / AUS \$24.95

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SYNOPSIS

What happens when a little girl tries to help her dad get ready for bed? Especially when he isn't tired, doesn't want a bath and begs for one more story to be read to him! Sound familiar? *Time for Bed, Daddy* flips the roles between parent and child completely. It is a funny, entertaining read and shows the special relationship that fathers share with their children.

THEMES

Father and child:

- *Time for Bed, Daddy* shares the unique bond between father and child.

Humour:

- The narrative and illustrations bring humour to this endearing text.

Bedtime:

- The routine of bedtime is a special time between parents and their children.

WRITING STYLE

Time for Bed, Daddy is an engaging and entertaining story that would appeal to early childhood and younger readers. It is written in first person, present tense and is narrated by a little girl who is trying to get her dad ready for bed. The illustrations add meaning to the written narrative that traces the bedtime routine of this hilarious household.

STUDY NOTES

- Before reading *Time for Bed, Daddy*, predict what might happen in the story. What clues does the front cover give us?
- What happens at your bedtime? What routines do you go through before switching off the light? What excuses do you use to prolong going to bed?
- If the roles were reversed in your household and you had to get your dad ready for bed, what do you think he'd do?
- *Time for Bed, Daddy* allows for excellent visual literacy. Examine the illustrations carefully. What are they telling us in addition to the text?

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- Discuss how *Time for Bed, Daddy* breaks the stereotype of a typical family's bedtime routine. How do the illustrations and text work together to break this stereotype?
- How has humour been used in both the text and the illustrations to represent the little girl and her father?
- The little girl shares a very special relationship with her father. Examine the illustrations carefully. What do they tell us about the bond between these characters?
- Write a letter to your dad, telling him all of the things you love doing with him and what you love about him.
- Why do dads do silly things with their children? Discuss in small groups some of the silly things your dad does.
- How are the relationships fathers share with their children similar to and different from those they share with their mothers? Create a Venn diagram to show your thoughts.
- Which is your favourite page spread? Why? Share with a friend.
- The little girl uses a 'dad joke' when helping her dad put his pyjamas on. What's a 'dad joke'? What are some of your father's 'dad jokes'? For more 'dad jokes', read *My Dad Thinks He's Funny* and *My Dad Still Thinks He's Funny* by Katrina Germein and Tom Jellett.
- Write a reflection of the relationship that you share with your dad.
- Compare *Time for Bed, Daddy* with some of the following picture books about dads:
 - *My Dad's a Wrestler* by Matt Zurbo and Dean Gorissen
 - *My Dad Does Yoga* by Phillip Gwynne and Andrew Joyner
 - *Molly and Her Dad* by Jan Ormerod and Carol Thompson
- Using *Time for Bed, Daddy* as inspiration, create a picture book about your mother, called *Time for '...' Mummy*.

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- Re-create Mem Fox and Jane Dyer's *Time for Bed* nursery rhyme by using the ideas in Dave Hackett's *Time for Bed, Daddy*.
- Create a Cloze Activity using the text of *Time for Bed, Daddy*.
- Experiment with drawing characters in a style similar to Dave Hackett's.
- Visit Dave Hackett's website: www.cartoondave.com

AUTHOR MOTIVATION

There have always been stories before bed in my house – either read from books or made up on the spot – and my kids have always been part of the process. 'Let's have a story with a turtle, but a blue turtle with super powers, and he needs to save the day with an orange juice carton' could be my brief on any given night! The kids and I would talk about the characters and what might happen and everyone would chip in.

Time for Bed, Daddy goes back to when my daughter Sami was about 4 or 5 (she's a teenager now) and I made the story up for her. Sami liked it and so I told it a couple of times and each time it evolved a little bit more. So the story has been around for a fair while now and I thought it was a good time to get it down on paper – even though my kids are older now, some parents out there are still wrestling at bedtime. That said, my kids were always good at going to bed and still are!

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dave Hackett (Cartoon Dave) is currently seen each week on Channel Eleven's *Toasted TV* and Channel Seven's *It's Academic*.

Dave has presented to over 130,000 children in schools and libraries, and has been a popular speaker at numerous teacher/librarian conferences and literature festivals across the country. He has written six instructional cartooning books and is also the creator of the UFO – Unavoidable Family Outing novel series (all three books included in the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge): *Sumo Granny Smackdown*; *Norman Enormous*; and *Hamilton's Handstand*. He also recently co-created *The Bum Book* and published his first young adult novel *Summer of Kicks* with UQP in 2014.

You can visit him online at www.cartoondave.com