

KIDS BOOK CLUB

April 2019 Selection

***Matilda* by Roald Dahl**

Matilda is a sweet, exceptional young girl, but her parents think she's just a nuisance. She expects school to be different but there she has to face Miss Trunchbull, a kid-hating terror of a headmistress. When Matilda is attacked by the Trunchbull she suddenly discovers she has a remarkable power with which to fight back. It'll take a superhuman genius to give Miss Trunchbull what she deserves and Matilda may be just the one to do it.

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Discussion Questions:

1. If you had powers like Matilda's, what would you do with them? Suppose you could move just one thing with your mind. What would it be?
2. How would you react if the Trunchbull wandered into one of your classrooms?
3. Who is the meanest character in the book? How are they mean? The nicest? What makes them nice?
4. Look back at a few of the different pranks played in the book. Are they realistic? Could any of them really work? And which one's your favorite?
5. Are the books Mrs. Phelps gives to Matilda appropriate for a five-year-old to read? What would you add to this list? What would you remove?

6. Do you think events like those in the book could ever happen? Why or why not?
7. Could anyone besides Bruce Bogtrotter eat an entire chocolate cake?
8. Would you call the end of the book a happy one? Why or why not?
9. Do you think Miss Honey's explanation about why Matilda starts losing her special abilities at the end of the book makes sense?
10. At what point in the book did you figure out the connection between Miss Honey and the Trunchbull?
11. Do you agree with reviewers that the ending is "contrived"? Why or why not?

Review or Comment about this book:

Help others with their decision to read this book by simply leaving your comments and reviews online at <http://www.booksamillion.com/p/9780142410370>

Recommendations:

- If you liked *Matilda*, you might like *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (<http://www.booksamillion.com/p/9780142410318>)
- You might also enjoy *Harriet the Spy* (<http://www.booksamillion.com/p/9780440416791>)