Henry and Mudge and the Big Sleepover

Kristie Hickley

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Title: Henry and Mudge and the Big Sleepover
Author: Cynthia Rylant
Illustrator: Sucie Stevenson
Reviewer: Kristie Hinckley
Publisher: Simon & Schuster Children’s Publishing Division
Publication Year: 2006
ISBN: 9780689834516
Number of Pages: 40
Interest Level: Primary
Rating: Excellent

Review

Henry is a young, red-haired boy with a large, playful dog, Mudge. They go everywhere together! When Henry’s friend Patrick invites them to a sleepover party, Mudge is invited too. In fact, all of Henry’s friends bring their dogs to the party, which makes Patrick’s parents a little worried about their precious, breakable knick-knacks. They send the boys and their dogs up to the attic for more sleepover fun. They enjoy monster movies, pizza, and a popcorn-eating contest for the dogs before they each snuggle into their sleeping bags and fall asleep. Mudge is the only dog that has his own sleeping bag because he is so big, and all the other dogs end up sharing Mudge’s sleeping bag with him before morning comes.

Henry and Mudge and the Big Sleepover is a Level 2 Ready-to-Read book, meaning it has a more complex story, varied sentence structure, paragraphs, and short chapters. Perfect for beginning readers who are ready for the next level of independent reading. Boys and girls will enjoy books in the Henry and Mudge series, but this book may especially appeal to boys as the story centers around Henry and his friends. The untied shoes, throwing food, and lack of nail polish at this sleepover party will excite many young male readers as well. Readers will want their own canine friend to bring everywhere before the end of this book!