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Henry and Mudge and the Funny Lunch

Ariel Woodbury

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Book Review

Title: Henry and Mudge and the Funny Lunch

Author: Cynthia Rylant

Illustrator: Carolyn Bracken

Reviewer: Ariel Woodbury

Publisher: Simon Spotlight

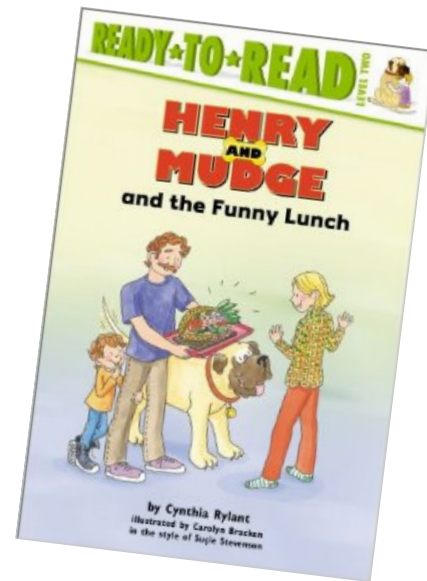
Publication Year: 2004

ISBN: 9780679834448

Number of Pages: 40

Interest Level: Preschool

Rating: Dependable



Review

Skylar lives in a special place called Gardnerville where no one ever gets sick and no one ever dies, but it comes at a cost. Every fourth year something happens to the teenagers of the town and their Henry and his father always make a funny lunch for Mom on Mother's Day. This year they are making a Pineapple Sofa! They go shopping for the ingredients they need, and then head home to make their creation. They even make an apple dad, a peach mother, a plum boy, and a kiwi dog to sit on the couch. Mom loves it and they all eat it together.

The words in this book are divided evenly between the pages, so no single page should frustrate young readers too much. There are also colorful illustrations on every page. The story is simple, and it provides a more a linear telling of events than a plot in which they are related. The book is for fairly advanced readers, with big words and words that are hard to sound out like "grocery" and "laughed". Overall, it is sufficient reading material for kids who need to practice reading longer beginner books, but may not be very fun to read.