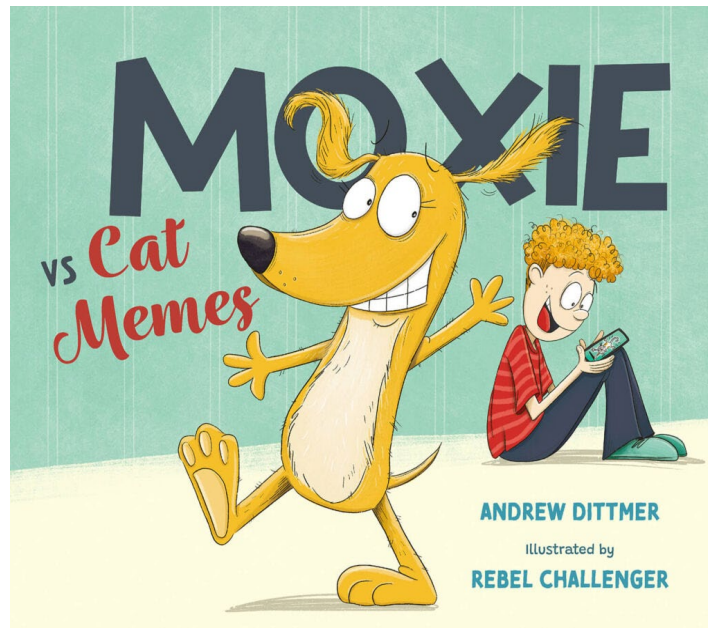


Moxie vs Cat Memes

TEACHER NOTES

Author: Andrew Dittmer
Illustrator: Rebel Challenger



Synopsis

A Story about focusing on those around you in a screen-distracted world

Moxie vs Cat Memes follows a dog called Moxie who feels neglected by her owner, Wally who is too busy watching cat memes. Moxie has to be very clever to find a way to capture Wally's attention to remind him that she's his special girl deserving of his love and attention.

Themes

- Healthy screen time
- Prioritising relationships over excessive technology use
- The intrinsic value of each individual and their deserving of love and attention

Discussion Questions

- How does Moxie feel when Wally is constantly distracted by his phone?
- What does Moxie do to try and get Wally's attention?
- After Moxie pulls Wally away from the screen, how does Wally feel about choosing to spend his whole day on his screen?
- How do you think Moxie feels when Wally decides to spend the next day with her?
- What is more important? The people and pets around us? Or spending all day on our screens?
- How can we organise our day so that we can enjoy some screen time but also allow lots of time with the people and pets we love?

Activities

Draw

Ask students to draw two scenes.

1. A picture where Moxie is wanting to get Wally's attention
2. A picture where Wally and Moxie are playing together

Ask the students about how Moxie feels in key illustrations and why.

Write

Ask students to write about:

- A time they wanted to tell somebody something but the person wasn't paying attention.
- A time they were using their screen and somebody wanted to talk to them

Discuss ways to balance both situations.

About the author:

Andrew Dittmer is an Australian children's author who loves zooming down hills on his bike, sliding down waves on his surfboard, and spotting the incredible animals found in Australia. He writes picture books that he hopes children will hound their parents to read again and again. His stories aim to be fun and help children know they are infinitely valuable, highly capable, and that they each have special talents they'll use to make the world a better place.

About the illustrator:

Rebel Challenger is an artist and wildlife carer from Queensland, Australia. Her illustrations are filled with humour and heart, and are mostly inspired by the animals who wander around her backyard and animals from all over the world who she would love to meet one day.

Relevant Australian Curriculum reference

ACELT1582: Compare Wally's distractions with the students' own experiences with technology

ACELY1656: Discuss how Moxie felt when Wally was not looking at her when she was trying to communicate with him and how she might have felt if he was showing interest.

ACPPS003: Explore how relationships, including those with pets, affect well-being.

ACPPS020: Identify strategies for maintaining healthy relationships while balancing the use of technology.

ACTDIK007: Discuss the role of technology in everyday life and its impact on personal relationships.