



# Ernest, the Moose Who Doesn't Fit

*Catherine Rayner (Illustrations)*

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## **Ernest, the Moose Who Doesn't Fit** Catherine Rayner (Illustrations)

Ernest is a rather large moose with a rather large problem. He is so big he can't fit inside his book! Luckily, Ernest is also a very determined moose, and he and his little chipmunk friend aren't going to give up easily. With some tape, odd bits of paper, and plenty of enthusiasm, the pair constructs an enormous gatefold page by themselves, and everything fits together in the end.

## **Ernest, the Moose Who Doesn't Fit Details**

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ISBN : 9780374322175  
Author : Catherine Rayner (Illustrations)  
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# **From Reader Review Ernest, the Moose Who Doesn't Fit for online ebook**

## **Hollie Westmore says**

Catherine Rayner- Ernest.

This is a lovely story about two friends that could not be more different! The story is based on a small chipmunk and a very large moose! The moose is so large that he does not fit anywhere regardless of his best efforts. I love the words chosen in the text such as shimmy, shuffle, and shunt! This story may be useful to read to children whilst they are learning the phonemes 'sh'.

I believe the story would be suitable to young children due to the large font, short text and large pictures. This story allows for large discussions during PSHE lessons or circle times. Rayner exposes children to the importance of working together, looking after your friends and how two completely different people can become good friends! It exposes children to diversity and shows children that it is fine to be different from your friends.

I strongly recommend this story to support PSHE lessons or circle times within the Early Years Foundation Stage.

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## **Shiloah says**

We clapped for the ending. I love ingenuity.

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## **Nisha Patel says**

Ernest is a large moose with a very big problem, he can not fit on the page! However with the help of his friend and determination he tries all sorts of ways to be able to fit into the book. Until at the end where his friend the chipmunk helps him realise that he did not have to change anything about himself to be able to fit in, the book adapted itself to fit Ernest. So the last page folds out into a bigger page and Ernest finally fits!

This is a wonderful and funny story to be read in KS1 with a great underlying message of acceptance and fitting in no matter what you look like, your shape, your size or anything else you are not confident about. It can provide younger children with the message that it is OK to be different. In instances where there may be some form of bullying in the class or a child being left out, this is a great story to read and feedback feelings and ideas with the rest of the class. It is a lovely story to read out to the class with words that stand out such as 'Large' and 'Big' to emphasize the point and clear for all children to see and perhaps read along with at those points.

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## **Ashley Chance says**

‘Ernest’ is a book about an enormous moose who finds it hard to fit in-quite literally! He finds it so hard to even fit on to the pages of the book. Yet with a little determination and help from his marsupial friend they work closely together to find an alternative way of accommodating Moose.

The books only downfall is that it ends so soon. I really liked the illustrations which brought the challenging plan of trying to help Ernest fit in, right into the readers lap through an open flap book style. The story wittingly points out the obvious which is that not everybody feels like they ‘fit in’ sometimes and it conveys the idea that if you try to fit in with a little bit of help you will do eventually.

The appropriate age range for this book would be KS 1 simply because I would not expect children in the Early Years to understand the books subtleties-having said this-there would be an option to read the story to support curriculum work with the theme of Animals. Children in upper KS 1 would benefit from using the book during guided reading session and could discuss some of the ‘WOW’ words within the text such as, shimmy, shunt, squidge, squodge and scrumple. This could lead onto a creative writing lesson where children could apply some of the learned ‘WOW’ words into their own writing or text.

The book could also be used during a PSHE lesson to talk about times when the children have had to work together with a friend to complete a task and to share times when they may have felt like they did not fit in. This could then lead onto a task where the children work in groups to try to solve a practical problem together by ensuring that every child contributes and everybody’s ideas and opinions are consider as valid.

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## **Adele Last says**

This is a story about a very large Moose called Ernest. This moose has a mouse for a best friend and together they try to come up with a solution to solve Ernest’s problem of not fitting into his book. After trying a number of solutions, the mouse disappears and makes a surprise for Ernest. The last page of the book folds out into four pages and the Moose is standing tall in his page. He thanks his friend and smiles.

I like this story as it teaches children about the idea of feeling like you don’t fit in with a certain group. This story encourages children to work together in order to solve problems as well as encouraging them to help others feel as if they fit in. This story is quite simple as it has simple sentences that are written in different sizes to emphasise the size of the Moose. This would be appropriate for younger children as there is not a lot of text to read and it is accompanied with beautiful pictures that, again, emphasise the size of the moose as he does not fit into the pages of the book.

This would be an appropriate book for a teacher to use within a personal, social and emotional lesson such as Circle Time as this would allow the teacher to discuss the idea of not fitting in and how children could try to solve this issue. After this, the book could be left for the children to read independently. This could encourage them to discuss issues that they feel insecure about.

I would use this book with children from a young age, possibly from Reception class, as this is an issue that could arise in any classroom.

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## **Chloe Avery says**

Ernest, the Moose Who Doesn't Fit by Catherine Rayner.

This is a story about a moose named Ernest, who has a problem, he is very large and cannot find a way to fit into the book. Throughout the story the illustrations show different parts of Ernest's body and different ways he tries to fit on to the page. However Ernest does not give up and with the help of his little friend a chipmunk they come up with a plan. The last page of this book is a fold out and shows how Earnest and his friend have found paper and tape to create a big enough space for Earnest. Throughout the story children will enjoy trying to think about how Ernest could fit into the book. The children might also discuss how Earnest may feel and how his friend may make him feel. I really enjoyed this story and the idea behind it. I believe the messages portrayed in this book are not to give up. The book also encourages problem solving, team work and the importance of friendship.

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## **Maeve Harrison says**

"Ernest, the moose who doesn't fit" by Catherine Rayner is a nice book for early years children. Ernest is a large moose who cannot fit into the book so as we read the book we can only see parts of him. His small chipmunk friend is trying desperately to get him to fit into the book but to no avail. Just when they are about to give up, his little friend comes up with a great idea to fit him in the book which is to stick some pages together so we can finally see Ernest in all his glory. On the last page of the book there is a larger fold out page which shows a full picture of Ernest and his friend at last. I would recommend reading this book to early years children as I think they would enjoy the mystery of how to get Ernest in the book, and also the large fold out image at the end.

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## **Tasha says**

Ernest has a problem, he doesn't fit into the book! He tries to shuffle in forward, but that doesn't work. He tries to squeeze in backward. Nope. He can get his middle to fit, but not his legs or head. Luckily, Ernest has a small friend with a big idea. It's just going to take some tape and some paper. They work for a long time until... Well, you will just have to read it to find out how they manage to fit Ernest into his book. Children will respond to the visual puzzle of how to get Ernest to fit into the book. The final unveiling is definitely worth the suspense and build up.

Rayner has created a very simple book that is filled with a gentle humor. The process of problem solving is played out here, from the issue itself through trial and error, and finally the brilliant solution! It is a book that also demonstrates creativity and perseverance. Rayner's illustrations are a charming mix of media with paint, crayon and paper arts. The background to the illustrations is graph paper giving a great mathematical and structural feel to the whimsical art. It is a dynamic pairing.

A great book to share with a group, this book will have everyone cheering Ernest and his friend and their solution to how to fit a big moose in a small book. Appropriate for ages 4-7.

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### **Lisa Vegan says**

This is a delightful book. Ernest is so, so cute. This is a great story for teaching kids to “think outside the box” and mostly it’s just fun. It’s a perfect read aloud book; there is a fold out page at the end, and this is not a board book (at least my edition isn’t) so very young children should be supervised while this book is being read. Beginning readers will probably enjoy this book too. Great for animal lovers and book lovers both. I took one look at Earnest and fell in love. For me, the book was slightly too slight a story for me to give it 5 stars, but I really enjoyed this and recommend it to all young children.

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### **Laura O Driscoll says**

Ernest, the Moose Who Doesn't Fit, is a wonderfully illustrated book by Catherine Rayner. Literally, this normal sized picture book is about a Moose who is entirely too big to fit into it. Throughout the book, Ernest tries to squish, squash and shimmy into the pages, but to no avail. His unusual solution is to "tape" together spare scraps of "paper" to create a large gatefold page at the end, where Ernest triumphantly squeezes his whole body in. Children will love this surprise pop-out page at the end of the book. This book would also be a great dialogue started on social acceptance and "fitting in", both important issues on the mind of school age children.

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### **Dolly says**

This is a humorous tale about a big moose and his attempts to fit inside the pages of a book. The narrative is short and entertaining and the illustrations are terrific, especially the fold out pages at the end. This is a wonderful book for younger children. Adorable.

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### **Sarah Brombley says**

An amusing challenge of trying to fit a moose in a book. I enjoy books that address the fact that they are books and break the barriers of the edge of the page!

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### **Mari says**

I must have been in a grumpy mood the first time I read this book. At the time, it didn't appeal to me, maybe because I was tired of fold out pages and how quickly they get ripped when part of a library collection.

Upon re-reading, I find that I very much like this title. The language is fantastic and the illustrations are charming. I'm looking forward to sharing it with my storytime families.

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**Kathryn says**

So cute! Earnest is an adorable moose, but he's also very big, and he doesn't fit in the book! He is also a determined moose, and doesn't give up. But, try as he might, the book is just too small. Fortunately, his little chipmunk friend has a very big idea... The ending is a treat that I'm sure children will enjoy. Adorable illustrations and some fun read-aloud words make this a winner.

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**Nick Swarbrick says**

I really dislike the way we talk about how we could “use” this book or that - but this simple and brilliant little story had me thinking instantly about how children and adults might explore books and book design through reading this and exploring its themes of size and choice and friendship and...and...

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