



Angry Arthur

Hiawyn Oram

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When Arthur's mother won't let him stay up, he becomes angry -- angrier than he's ever been. His anger creates a thunderstorm, a hurricane, a universe-quake! But the storm finally calms, and so does Arthur -- who makes a surprising discovery as he falls asleep.

Angry Arthur Details

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From Reader Review Angry Arthur for online ebook

Zoe Wood says

This book helps to illustrate how children (or adults) may feel when they get really angry. Illustrated with comic book style drawings. This book raised more questions than it answers! A brilliant book for discussion.

Antony Tills says

When I picked this book up, it was purely out of curiosity. The title pulled my interest and the cover image jumped out at me. This book is - as the title says - about a boy called Arthur, who is angry. At the very start of the book the author explains what makes Arthur so angry. Throughout the book you see the boy's anger grow and grow, the author uses very powerful distributive words, including; exploding thunder, hurling rooftops and tipping hole towns. As you read on, you see the imaginative destruction that Arthur's anger is causing. His anger subsequently destroys the entire universe. This leaves him all alone, with nothing left but a question. This brings the reader to the beautiful end of the story, where Arthur realises how things have gone so wrong. The beauty of this ending comes from every person's life as a child - at some point - feeling this strong anger from something.

I love how the book uses repetition to speak to the reader. In addition to this, the illustrations work perfectly, you can tell the darkness and emotion behind them, the rough lines and vast size really adds context to the story. The fact that the author wrote the book from the inspiration of many children going though this, from incidents in their life that are very minor, says to me it was a good cause.

I think this story does best in the KS1-KS2 transition period, however I think it would work well with any child in primary school. I believe that it would be particularly beneficial for self reading or guided reading with children who have SEN/behavior issues, this is because the child can see how being angry is normal and as a teacher/parent you could use this book to instill in a child the ability to stop anger from growing.

In summary, this book is short, sweet and powerful. It is very well written and understandable for many ages.

Fran Urriola says

Muy bueno y divertido. Lecturas de domingo en el trabajo.

Amy Beckett says

Absolutely fantastic illustrations! It is amazing to see how Satoshi can take such a common event (a child getting angry for not having their way) and create such mastery in vivid and chaotic illustrations to convey Arthur's emotion. SO appealing and exciting to the eye for children.

Storywraps says

Arthur's mother won't let him stay up late and watch t.v. so Arthur responds by getting angry. Not just a little angry but an anger that escalates in stages until it affects the whole universe. His family tries to pose an intervention but to no avail. He crosses his arms, stiffens his body, scrunches up his face and erupts with a thunderstorm force, then a typhoon, a hurricane, and finally a universe-quake. His anger becomes a weapon of mass destruction causing his world (and beyond) to explode and everything around him to be destroyed. Arthur ends up on his bed balancing on a piece of rock from the planet Mars. His "space" time out gives him a breathing spell so he can hit the pause button and reflect on what caused this situation in the first place. This book is perfect to get that conversation about anger started. Through discussion you can explore this emotion, (which everyone has inside of them) and learn how it works, when it works and how to control it in varying situations. By mastering anger the world will be a more calm and peaceful place in which to live. Use this book as a valuable teaching tool for your child and maybe even yourself.

Paty says

-Lectura para el curso.

Charlotte Stevens says

Angry Arthur is a picture book about a little boy, Arthur, who gets extremely angry when his mum doesn't allow him to stay up late to watch TV. Initially his anger sees him mess up the house, but soon his rage takes control and gets bigger and bigger and no one can stop him! He causes a hurricane, typhoon and even makes the earth "crack like an egg" until the whole world falls apart. The story finishes with Arthur floating in space tucked up in bed, forgetting why he was angry at all!

I liked this book as it sends a good moral to children about how to deal with their emotions. It tackles the feeling of anger which is an issue many children will be familiar with but won't necessarily discuss. The story is comical as Arthur's mood swings get more and more out of control and ridiculous which represents how ridiculous it is to get angry at something which is so trivial. This is highlighted at the final page when Arthur is tucked up in bed in space forgetting why he was angry in the first place. It shows how one person's reaction can destroy the people and places around them and for no reason at all. The illustrations are very detailed and have a particularly Asian quality which makes the book noticeably different to a lot of other picture books. The main colours are dark and dull which seem to represent Arthur's angry view upon the world and natural disasters which he causes.

This story would be a great book to use in PSHE lessons. It could be read to the whole class in EYFS and KS1 and would work as a great stimulus to talk about emotions and feelings, particularly in circle time. Children could discuss how Arthur should have reacted that would have been better for him and for the people around him. It could also encourage the children to be open with their feelings, even setting up a post box in the classroom so children can write down if they are feeling angry or upset etc. Furthermore, this story would also link in nicely with geography as it portrays different natural disasters and climates which children would be able to look into more closely, and where such things as earthquakes and typhoons often occur. The author also uses a lot of alliteration and adventurous vocabulary which the children could explore

in literacy lessons.

Asma says

This story is about a boy called Arthur who gets really angry when he is not allowed to stay up and watch 'Western' on TV. He gets so angry that his anger does several things such as lead to an earthquake, a typhoon, leaves the universe and then ends up on Mars. At that point he reflects and then can't actually remember why he got angry.

This book is particularly good as it has great illustrations it would be more suitable for KS1. This book can be useful when thinking about behavior and different emotions. Furthermore it can also be used in a cross curricular way to explain natural disasters such as typhoons and earthquakes and also science.

Annie Cole says

Endless cross-curricular possibilities!

Kitamura's illustrations have a language of their own, which is detailed, vivid and filmic. The children explored this visual style through art. Oran's prose is simple yet poetic, using weather as a metaphor for Arthur's anger. We discussed feelings through circle times and wrote messages for a feeling tree outside. We conducted different science experiments where we mixed materials to create a universequake. Although written in the 80s, the book seems thoroughly modern and relevant. My favourite image is the earth cracking like a huge egg, with pieces of shell crumbling into space. I can't think of a better way to describe how it feels to be angry.

Dulce says

Ojalá hubiera conocido este libro cuando mi hijo tenía esa edad del berrinche.

Narré la historia a un grupo de niños y papás y fue asombroso ver a los papás gozar la historia y asentir con la cabeza todo el tiempo.

No hay más palabras para describirlo: leánlo.

Samara Gray says

I really like this book. It is an easy read with a nice rhythm. Arthur becomes angry and goes on to create a mess.

I would use this book with KS1 up to year 4. It allows the children to think about why they get angry and if it is worth it? It would be a nice book to open a PSHE lesson with or even a P4C depending on your topic.

It would also be useful to use with a particular child if they are having problems with anger.

Jobiska (Cindy) says

I dunno about this one...Arthur's extreme anger which (apparently irreversibly) causes a universe-quake that leaves Arthur and everything else floating in space would have scared me when I was little. I guess it might help some kids deal with anger issues, and the illustrations are good, but still....

Cleo Jones says

An important book with an endearing and comical description of the deep frustrated rage that every child sometimes feels.

Michael Mccaul says

This story see a second Princess set of in a mission to usurp her sister the first sister so she would no longer be second. Needless to say she gets into a whole lot of bother before her parents show themselves to be a deft hand at politics in finding just the right compromise that solved the problem. This story like many for this age range (5-7) has very useful lessons for children that could help in their day to day socialisation. I think I would use this to begin a circle time session.

Sigourney says

"Why was I so angry?" he thought.

He never did remember.

Can you?

Still relatable over thirty years after it was first published, and over twenty years since I first read it.
