ABOUT THE BOOK

“Judy Moody was in a mood. Not a good mood. A bad mood. A mad-face mood.”

To start, Judy Moody doesn’t have high hopes for third grade. Her new desk won’t have an armadillo sticker with her name on it. Her new classroom will not have a porcupine named Roger. And with her luck, she’ll get stuck sitting in the first row, where Mr. Todd will notice every time she tries to pass a note to her best friend, Rocky. An aspiring doctor, Judy has a little brother who comes in handy for practicing medicine, a cool new pet, and a huge Band-Aid collection.

Judy also has an abundance of individuality and attitude, and when Mr. Todd assigns a very special class project, she really gets a chance to express herself! Megan McDonald’s spirited text and Peter H. Reynolds’s wry illustrations combine in a feisty, funny first chapter book for every kid who has ever felt a little out of sorts.

Greetings, friend,

Yippee skippy! Judy Moody is here to help put educators and students alike in a S-U-P-E-R G-R-E-A-T mood!

In this guide filled with book-specific activities aligned to the Common Core State Standards, you’ll find out-of-this-world fun and learning rolled into one. These activities based on Judy Moody are sure to turn your classroom into a learning-palooza!
(Almost Not) B.F.F.s

Judy's best friends are Rocky and Frank. But at first Judy doesn't want to be Frank's friend because she thinks he is a paste-eating nuisance. It isn't until Frank's birthday party that Judy realizes they have a lot in common. Ask students if they have ever made a rash decision regarding a person before getting to know him or her. Then discuss what it means to be a friend. What do friends do together? What do friends do for each other? Discuss the importance of friends having differences as well as common interests.

We All Scream for Ice Cream

Judy Moody loves Screamin’ Mimi’s ice cream. Her favorite flavor is Chocolate Mud. Have students create a Screamin’ Mimi’s menu that names and describes at least five special flavors that Judy Moody wouldn’t be able to resist. Encourage kids to use references from Judy Moody in their frozen concoctions and decorate their menus Judy-style. PS: Tell them not to forget the cherry on top!

Plant vs. Fly

Jaws is the very appropriate name of Judy Moody’s Venus flytrap. Talk to your class about Venus flytraps or have them do some independent research on the plant species. Then have your students write a short story about a fly from a Venus flytrap's point of view. When they are finished, have students swap stories with a partner and ask them to rewrite their partner's story from the point of view of the fly.

Meet My Pet . . . Rock

In Judy Moody, one of the questions in Mr. Todd’s Me Collage was “What is your favorite pet?” Fortunately, Judy has Mouse and then eventually Jaws to feature in her project, but some people don’t have pets. One pet everybody can own is a pet rock. Have students look for rocks and decorate them using markers, paint, glitter, feathers, googly eyes, and anything else they can find to make the perfect pet rock. Invite students to introduce their new pets to the class.
J.M.L.C.
(Judy Moody Loves Clubs)

J.M.L.C. — who can blame her? When she realized she wasn’t in a club herself, she and Rocky created the T. P. Club. Ask your students to come up with a club that the whole class can be a part of. As a class, brainstorm things that everyone has in common, vote on the most interesting one, name the club, and write a club motto and a set of rules for everyone to follow. Declare your classroom Club Headquarters and decorate it together in a theme related to the club’s motto.

Two Heads Are Better Than One

Judy Moody follows the saying “Two heads are better than one.” Introduce proverbs to your class by reading this one to them and explaining that proverbs have been in the English language for a long time and are meant to convey wisdom. Ask them if they agree or disagree with Judy’s proverb and have them back up their opinions with facts and/or their own experiences. Then have students research other proverbs and share their favorites with the class.

COMMON CORE CONNECTIONS

Speaking and Listening
Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions.

Research to Build and Present Knowledge
Participate in shared research and writing projects.

Key Ideas and Details
Describe how words and phrases (e.g., regular beats, alliteration, rhymes, repeated lines) supply rhythm and meaning in a story, poem, or song.
CREATE A **ME COLLAGE**

When Judy Moody’s teacher, Mr. Todd, assigns a project he calls a Me collage, Judy thinks it sounds fun (although she doesn’t say so). Mr. Todd tells his students to make a collage that is “all about YOU.” He says to “draw or cut out pictures or paste things to your collage that tell the class what makes you YOU.” Think about what makes you YOU. Then start gathering materials to create your own Me collage. Use ideas from Mr. Todd’s list below—and any other categories you can think of! Paste your collage to a big piece of poster board.

- my family
- my favorite pet
- my favorite food
- my best friend
- clubs I belong to
- hobbies
- the worst thing that ever happened to me
- the funniest thing that ever happened to me
Use the template below to create your very own Judy Moody bookmark. All you have to do is color, cut, add some Judy-esque flair (such as Band-Aids, glow-in-the-dark stickers, or tiger stripes), and then glue your masterpiece to a piece of cardboard. On the back of your bookmark, write the names of all of the Judy Moody books you have read.
About the Author

Megan McDonald is the creator of the popular and award-winning Judy Moody and Stink series. She is also the author of three Sisters Club stories, two books about Ant and Honey Bee, and many other books for children. She lives in Sebastopol, California, where she is a member of the Ice-Cream-for-Life Club at Screamin’ Mimi’s.

About the Illustrator

Peter H. Reynolds is the illustrator of the Judy Moody and Stink books and the author-illustrator of The Dot, Playing from the Heart, and many other titles. Born in Canada, he now lives in Dedham, Massachusetts, where he is part owner of a children’s book and toy shop called the Blue Bunny.