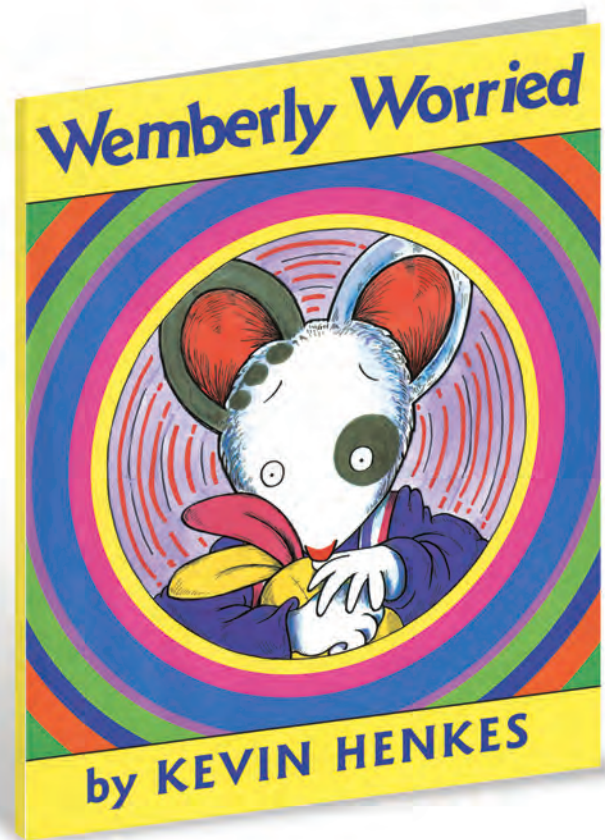


Wemberly Worried

by Kevin Henkes

Wemberly worries about everything. Big things. Little things. And things in between. What Wemberly worries about most is her first day of school. But once she gets to school, Wemberly meets someone who worries just like she does. Finding a friend makes Wemberly worry a little bit less.



1 First Read-Aloud

Before Reading

Introduce characters and the problem.

“In *Wemberly Worried*, Wemberly worries about big things, little things, and things in between. She worries about going to school for the first time. What will happen to her? What could go wrong? Let’s read the book to find out how Wemberly gets through her first day of school.”

While Reading

Expand vocabulary by pointing to pictures, using gestures to dramatize, and describing:

worried, ‘go with the fl w,’ especially, make fun of, peeked, usual

Comment on main characters’ thoughts and actions.

- “Even Wemberly’s family worries about how much she worries. I wonder what would help Wemberly feel better.”
- “This will be Wemberly’s first day of school. I wonder what school things might worry Wemberly.”
- “Mrs. Peachum tells Wemberly she should meet Jewel. Maybe they are alike in some ways and could become friends.”
- “Now Wemberly is happier and less worried. I think having a friend really helped her feel better.”

After Reading

Invite explanations, wonder aloud, and ask follow-up questions.

- “What things worry Wemberly? Why do you think she worries about those things?”
- “What helped Wemberly’s worries about school go away?”

2 Second Read-Aloud

Before Reading

Recall the characters and the problem.

“We’re going to read *Wemberly Worried* again. You may remember that in this story, Wemberly worries about everything, especially about the first day of school. What things worried Wemberly? What helped Wemberly’s worries about school go away? How did Wemberly feel by the end of the story?”

While Reading

Expand vocabulary using more verbal explanations:

worried, especially, usual

Reinforce some previously introduced words by pointing to pictures and dramatizing:

peeked, make fun of

Comment on and ask follow-up questions about the other characters.

- “Wemberly just keeps worrying about everything. How do you think that makes her parents and grandmother feel?”
- “Wemberly’s grandmother has an interesting way of telling Wemberly not to worry. Besides talking to Wemberly, what else does the grandmother do?”
- “I wonder if Jewel had the same worries as Wemberly.”
- “Why do you think Wemberly tells Mrs. Peachum not to worry at the end of the story?”

After Reading

Invite explanations, wonder aloud, and ask follow-up questions.

- “Wemberly’s family tells her not to worry so much. Her mother and father give her lots of hugs. I think they do that to help her feel safe. What else could Wemberly’s family say or do to help her?”
- “How are Jewel and Wemberly alike? How does that help them become friends?”

3 Third Read-Aloud

Before Reading

Encourage children to recall the problem and solution.

“We’re going to read a book that we’ve read two times before. Who can tell us the title of this book? In this story, what is the problem? How does Wemberly solve the problem? What does Wemberly learn?”

While Reading

Expand vocabulary:

worried, especially, peeked, usual

Guide children to reconstruct the story as you turn the pages.

Read a few pages and allow the children to reconstruct parts of the story. Occasionally ask questions such as “What is happening here?” or “What happens next?” that help children recall the events of the story. Encourage children to explain what characters are thinking and feeling.

After Reading

Wonder aloud and ask follow-up questions.

- “Do you think that Wemberly will continue to worry about everything? Why or why not?”
- “Wemberly goes from being very worried about school to being less worried about school. What do you think she learns about school and herself that makes her feel better?”

Vocabulary

worried

(make worried face) thinking a lot or nervous about something

'go with the flow'

relax; try not to worry about every little thing

especially

very much

make fun of

tease

peeked

(demonstrate action) looked at something quickly while trying to stay hidden

usual

the way something is most of the time

Supporting Social–Emotional Development

Manages feelings

- “Wemberly is very worried about going to school for the first time. How did you feel before your first day of school? If you were worried, what helped you feel less worried?”
- “Sometimes it’s scary to do something for the first time. Have you ever tried to do something you hadn’t done before? Were you worried before you did it? How did you feel after you tried it?”

Makes friends

- “Jewel and Wemberly become friends by finding out that they are alike in many ways. How do you make friends with someone new?”