

# Love, Splat

by Rob Scotton



R.E.D. Zone

Splat has made a very special valentine for Kitten, whom he likes more than fish sticks and ice cream. But Splat is unsure if Kitten likes him back and gets discouraged when another rival cat also likes Kitten. Read to find out if Splat's heartfelt valentine wins Kitten over in the end.

## Read

### Before:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow that with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, **what do you think this story is about?** Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an "I wonder" statement based on the cover illustration.

- I wonder for whom has Splat made a Valentine?

### During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions, and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end. Introduce the concepts of comparison, perspective and persuasion to help the children relate to their meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

### Rare Words in Love, Splat

- rumbled: to make a low sort of growling sound
- ignored: to not notice on purpose
- gazed: to stare or look straight at something for a long time
- wobbled: move from side to side
- swapped: traded one thing for another
- clutching: holding with a tight grip
- smugly: something done in a proud way

### After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- Why did Splat's tummy rumble on his way to school?
- How many cats swapped valentines in Splat's class?
- Why did Splat throw away his valentine card to Kitten?
- Spike's valentine to Kitten was bigger, did that make his better than Splat's?
- When Kitten called Splat "smelly," do you think she was being mean?
- What do we celebrate on Valentine's Day? How will you celebrate Valentine's Day?
- Have you ever gotten a valentine or love letter on Valentine's Day?

## Do

### Kitten's Poem

After reading the story, re-read Kitten's card to Splat and discuss what makes the words rhyme (word families, ending sounds, spelling, etc.) Allow the children enough time to create their own rhyme by finding their words in old magazines and newspapers, cutting them out and gluing them on a piece of paper.

### Materials

- Old magazines, newspapers, or any printed material you no longer want
- Letter size construction paper (various colors)
- Crayons, markers, pencils
- Scissors
- Scotch tape/Glue

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