

Lamont Books Standing Order

March 2014

Teacher Notes and Activities

The Brothers Quibble

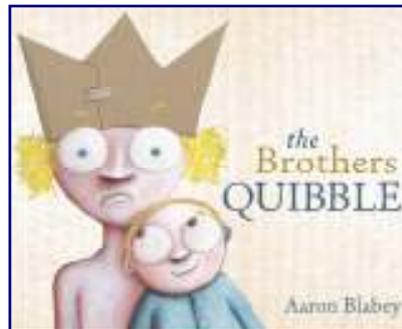
By Aaron Blabey

Publisher: Penguin Australia

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\$24.99

Spalding Quibble ruled the roost. He shared it with no other. But then his parents introduced a brand new baby brother. Uh oh. A picture book about love (and war) from the award-winning author of *Pearl Barley and Charlie Parsley*, *The Dreadful Fluff* and *Noah Dreary*.



Themes:

- Jealously
- Sibling rivalry
- Acceptance
- Family relationships
- Unconditional love

Discussion Points:

- How would you describe Spalding's reaction to his baby brother? Do you think it was a common way to react? Why or why not?
- If you already have younger brothers or sisters, how did you react when they first came home? If you haven't, how do you think you would behave?
- Was Spalding's behaviour unreasonable? Explain.
- As a class, come up with a list of words to describe his treatment of his baby brother.
- Do you think your parents would let you behave the way that Spalding did?
- Even though Spalding treated Bunny very badly, Bunny still loved him and wanted to be with him. Why do you think this was the case?
- The brothers surname is "Quibble". Do you know what the word "quibble" means? Do you think that the brothers surname reflects their behaviour in the story?
- What impact did Spalding's behaviour have on Bunny's behaviour?
- Why do brothers and sisters often fight? List what you think are the most common reasons.
- There are all different types of families. What is it about your family that you love the most?
- What are your favourite things to do together?

Activities:

- Aaron Blabey has a very unique style of illustrations. Draw a family portrait of your own family in the same style that he uses in his books. Give your drawing to one of your family members. (If you have a brother or sister, you might like to give it to the one you fight with the most!), just to show them how much you really do love them.