

The Battle

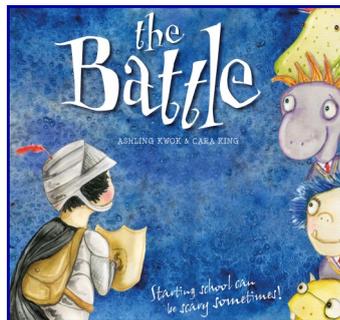
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Edward puts on his armour, prepared for battle. Starting knight-school is terrifying with all those ogres and dragons about. But at school, Edward is befriended by an ogre who offers him some of her lunch. Edward soon realises that maybe things aren't as bad as they first seemed. As he learns to let his guard down, magic and fun await!



Teacher Notes have been based on those supplied by the publisher. A full version is available on our website.

Themes:

- Childhood Fears
- Anxiety
- Bravery
- Perspective
- Perception
- Feelings
- Happiness
- Imagination
- Friendship

Discussion Questions:

- What is the story about?
- What sorts of words describe how Edward is feeling in the beginning of the story (e.g. scared, anxious, worried)?
- Why do you think Edward was scared?
- Have you ever felt this way? If so, when?
- How did Edward's teacher help?
- What were your favourite pages? Why?
- Why are friendships so important to us?
- Did Edward have any reason to be scared?
- Do you think Edward was brave to share the ogre's cake?
- What do you think would have happened if Edward refused to play?
- Do you have someone special you can talk to when you're scared? Have they helped you in the past? How?
- Do you like how the story ends? Why or why not?
- What sorts of words describe the way Edward is feeling at the end of the story (e.g. brave, happy, loved)?
- Why does he feel this way?
- Have you ever felt this way? If so, when?
- What do you think Edward will wear the next time he goes to school?

Activities:

- **Role-Play:** Divide the class into groups. Choose one group member to play the role of the new kid in class. The new kid's challenge is to try to gain acceptance into the group. After the role-plays, discuss with the class how it felt to be the new kid and how it felt to be part of the group.
- **Knight's armour:** Ask the children to bring in a large strong cardboard box. Remove the front and back panels from the box, then cut into the shape of armour. Tie both pieces together at the shoulder using ribbon or twine. Paint the cardboard panels using silver paint. You can also paint a coat of arms on the front piece.
- **Box helmet:** Make a helmet using a box. In the shoulder area, cut two rounded indents using a pair of scissors. Cut a rectangular shape into the front of the box – at eye level. Paint the helmet using silver paint and add a couple of feathers to the top.