

Millie Loves Ants

By Jackie French & Illustrated by Sue deGennaro

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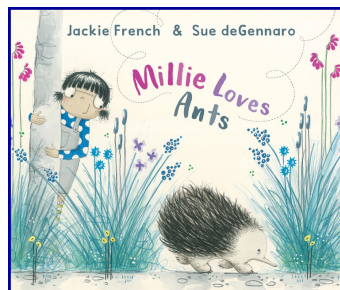
\$24.99

'My friend Millie just loves ants.'

Emily is intrigued to know why Millie the echidna loves ants so much. And so Emily carefully observes Millie until she discovers her secret.

Millie is collecting food for her baby puggle!

Created by talented duo Jackie French and Sue deGennaro, this delightful book explores the fascinating behaviour of these mammals.



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

Themes:

- Ants
- Echidnas
- Curiosity

Pre-Reading Questions:

- Who do you think Millie might be? What types of animals do we know like ants? What do you know about ants? Brainstorm knowledge onto a chart titled, 'What we know about ants!'

Classroom Ideas: Questions to encourage expressive oral language skills, listening and discussion of new vocabulary during reading of text:

- Pages 1 & 2:
Who do we think Millie is now? What country do echidnas live in? Why do you think Millie's whole world is ants? Where do you think Millie would look for ants?
- Pages 9 & 10:
Pause at reading the word 'bed' and see if the children can pick up on the rhyme using the picture as a clue
- Pages 11 & 12:
What does hollow mean? Do you know anything else that is hollow? Try making a hollow sound by tapping your cheeks.
- Pages 13 & 14:
What do you think the word 'mound' means? What do you think the word 'debris' means? Look at the pictures to help you and discuss. What are some of the words the author could have used instead of 'mound' or 'debris' that would mean the same thing?
- Pages 17 & 18:
What do you think a queen ant's job is? What do you think the soldier ants have to do? Can you march like a soldier?
- Final pages:
Where does Millie take all her ants? Do you think she gives them all to her baby? Do you know what a baby echidna is called?

Activities:

- Build an ant farm in the classroom. Take a picture each day to form a journal showing the development of the colony.
- Using clay and toothpicks, the children can make their own echidna. They can then use clay to also create an ant. They can then make an accessory to add to their ant, defining the ant's role. For example; A crown if it is the queen, a shovel if it is a worker or a hat if it is a soldier.