ABOUT THE BOOK

Greetings. You are most welcome to turn the pages, but please note that this is a very serious book, and therefore there are rules.

HERE ARE THE RULES:
- BEHAVE
- BE QUIET
- NO SPILLING
- NO LAUGHING
- NO THROWING
- NO CHEWING
- NO SHARING
- NO DRAWING
- STUDY
- LEARN

YOU ARE A SERIOUS READER, ARE YOU NOT?

STORYTIME ACTIVITIES

- POST THE BOOK’S RULES: There is a list of rules for This Is a Serious Book featured on the inside jacket flap. Make a poster with the rules and read them to the children before beginning. Ask the children if they’ve ever read a book that came with its own set of rules before. Tell the children that you will all try to follow the rules as you read.

- SERIOUS STOP AND GO: Practice self-regulation with this fun “Stop and Go” game. Hold up a red “Serious” paddle and a green “Silly” paddle. (You can also use colored scarves or pieces of paper.) When you say go, have the children be silly while the green paddle is up. But when the red paddle comes up, have the children freeze and make their best serious faces.

- NOT-SO-SERIOUS-CARDS: Write down on index cards some of the actions mentioned in the book. Shuffle them and have a child draw a card. Then, have the group perform or pantomime the actions together.

- ANIMAL SILLINESS: Have each child cast their vote for silliest animal in the book (donkey, zebra, snake, penguin, or monkey). Draw slash marks on a piece of paper to track their votes informally or go fancy by providing ballots and a ballot box.

- FUNNY FACES: Have some hand mirrors available for the children to practice making funny faces. You can also use a digital camera to take pictures of their funny faces to send home with the children after storytime is over.
These are some (not so) serious rules

Here are the rules for reading a serious book:

1. BEHAVE
2. BE QUIET
3. NO SPILLING
4. NO LAUGHING
5. NO THROWING
6. NO CHEWING
7. NO SHARING
8. NO DRAWING
9. STUDY
10. LEARN

What would your rules be for reading a (not so) serious book? List 8 below! We’ve suggested two ideas to get you started:

1. **STICK YOUR TONGUE OUT**
2. **HISSSSS LIKE A SNAKE**
3. 
4. 
5. 
6. 
7. 
8. 
9. 
10. 

Now you’re ready to read a (not so) serious book!
A serious book never, ever has silly faces! Or monkeys! What silly faces do you think monkeys make? Draw each monkey’s (not so) serious face in with a pencil, markers, or crayons.