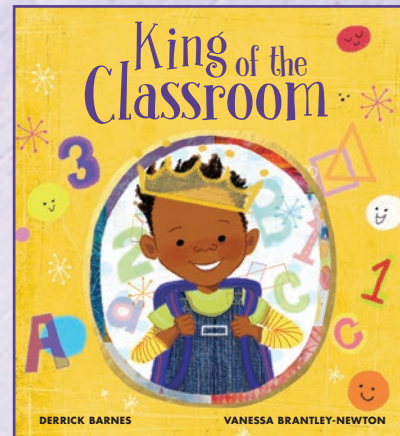


King of the Classroom

DERRICK BARNES and VANESSA BRANTLEY-NEWTON

'This beautifully drawn, infectious enthusiastic book will help prepare children for their first day at school, as they follow the hero who dresses himself, scoffs pancakes, and can't wait to meet his classmates and teacher. Once 'the king' (he's never named) gets to school, the book subtly introduces themes of self-respect, kindness and the joy of a diverse classroom.'

—The Bookseller



Read the book and discuss these top tips for being a King of the Classroom

1. Brush Ye Royal Toothlets well, choose special clothes and dress yourself neatly – **what would you wear?**
2. Eat up a big Royal breakfast – **what would you eat?**
3. Travel to the Grand Fortress with a BIG smile on your face – **how will you travel?**
4. Hold your head high and tell everyone your name with pride. Say a big HELLO to all your classmates – **have a little practice!**
5. Listen to your teacher, and see how much you can remember – what can you remember – **can you count to 5, or 10?**
6. Show your bravery at playtime and ask others to play with you – **what game will you play?**
7. Be kind with the other children – **how can you do that?** (share the play space, let them say what they want to, include any who are left out)
8. When you get home, describe the day to your parents – **do you think you'll have a lot to tell them?**



Activities to help prepare for the big day!



Pass the Crown

Play pass the crown as you play some music. When the music stops the royal crown wearer introduces themselves with a big old voice. You could add other greetings such as, lovely to see you. I'm pleased to meet you, bonjour, hello, how are you today?

Wear a crown

How heavy do you think a crown is? Can you balance a cushion on your head? Can you walk around with your head held high without it falling off? What about if you add an apple?

Sing a song at breakfast time

Can you think of any nursery rhymes to sing as you eat your royal breakfast? If you have an egg you might sing *Humpty Dumpty*? Or *Five fat sausages sizzling in the pan* or even *Hot cross buns*...

Prepare a Royal Carriage

Can you make a big yellow school bus like the one in the story out of a cardboard box? Draw some wheels and make a steering wheel. Sing *The wheels on the bus go round and round* and make some tickets for the passengers.





Activities to try after the Big Day

I said my name out loud

Memory game

Try and remember the names of all your new friends and draw their faces on paper plates. Can you play a game and turn one plate over and try and remember whose face it was?

I got myself ready

I made a new friend today

Describe your day

Draw a picture of something you did at school today and tell a grown up all about what you have drawn.

I ate all my breakfast

I listened to all the grown ups

Make a big KING OF THE CLASSROOM

crown and prepare some rewards to stick on it. Either pin your crown up on the wall or make one to wear. Cut out and colour in badges to stick on: use the ones here or make your own extra ones.

I smiled a big smile

I played pretend

I shared a story

I played fairly

I was kind to my class mate

I painted a picture

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