

Creamed Tuna Fish & Peas on Toast

by Philip Christian Stead

A toe-tapping, hand-clapping romp of a picture book with spectacular collage artwork.



Read

Before:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow that with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, *Who can tell me if they have ever eaten creamed tuna fish and peas on toast?* Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an "I wonder" statement based on the cover illustration.

- I wonder if the yellow bird likes creamed tuna fish and peas on toast?

During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions, and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end. Point out "rare words" (e.g., those words that are not commonly used in every day conversation) and help the children relate the meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

Rare Words in *Creamed Tuna Fish & Peas On Toast*

- mackerel: a greenish blue bony fish with a forked tail
- complain: to express unhappiness
- steam: the vapor that is formed when water boils
- wheeze: to breathe with a whistling sound and with difficulty
- brandish: to wave something about
- chisel: a tool for cutting and shaping wood or stone
- respect: a feeling toward somebody or something
- bowed: bend head or body forward

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- Do you think Wild Man Jack was a picky eater?
- How many of you would like creamed tuna fish and peas on toast?
- What were some of the expressions that Wild Man Jack made when the children asked him what would he do if Mama Jane served him creamed tuna fish & peas on toast?
- What chores did Wild Man Jack do around the house?
- How many children did Wild Man Jack and Mama Jane have? How many girls? Boys?
- Wild Man Jack buried his creamed tuna fish & peas on toast. Have you ever buried any food you didn't like?
- What did they put on the tombstone?

Do

Fish Tasting Party

Plan a tasting party. Prepare fish using different methods such as baked, broiled, fried, and prepared in a casserole. The results of the children's favorite fish preparation can be discussed and charted.