

# LaRue for Mayor

By Mark Teague

When Hugo Bugwort runs for mayor on an anti-dog platform, Ike LaRue and the other neighborhood dogs join in on the political process.



R.E.D. Zone

## 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, **Why would LaRue want to run for mayor?** 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 why LaRue is writing letters.

### 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. Introduce the concepts of comparison, perspective and persuasion to help the children relate to their meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

### Rare Words in LaRue for Mayor

- delinquency-minor crimes
- confined-kept in one space
- persevere-continue in the face of difficulty
- recuperate-recover from illness
- Virtuously-morally excellent
- Rampage-uncontrolled behavior in a large group
- Unruly-disruptive
- rambunctious-uncontrollably energetic
- apprehended-arrested for a crime
- lurid-shocking description of events
- menace-a person likely to cause harm
- impending-about to happen
- hysteria- uncontrollable excitement
- weary-feeling tired
- perilous-full of danger
- scurrilous-spreading false claims to damage their reputation
- hooligans-troublemakers
- vicious-cruel or violent
- fierce-having intense aggression
- bickering-argue about trivial matters
- Adversary-opponent

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### **After:**

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- How was Gertrude LaRue hurt?
- What was Ike doing on the hot dog cart?
- What does Ike do while Mrs. LaRue is in the hospital?
- Why would anyone think dogs were a menace?
- Why does Ike decide to run for mayor?
- Who supports Ike in his run for mayor?
- Who supports Hugo Bugwort?
- How did Ike help out Hugo Bugwort?
- Does Ike win the race?

**Do**

### **Letter Writing**

Ike uses letters to communicate with Mrs. LaRue while she is in the hospital. Use the illustrations of his letters in the book to explain the different parts of a letter to your class.

Have your students write a letter to a friend or classmate about their day. The letter should include a heading, the greeting, the body of the letter, the closing and their signature.