LLAMA LLAMA
Misses Mama
by Anna Dewdney

Time to get up, get dressed, and get going, because it’s holiday time, and Llama Llama
isn’t so sure it’s time to share all his toys… Llama Llama has new neighbors! Nelly Gnu
and Fixes Fuzzy, but she makes it clear: “I’ll put Fuzzy on the stairs, until you’re sure that you
aren’t so sure it’s time to share all his toys… Llama Llama is blazing, and Llama Llama
is sparkling, and Llama Llama is waiting.

For more information about Ms. Dewdney, please visit www.llamallamabook.com.


Don’t miss these other

new neighbors!

Guided Reading Level G · Lexile Level AD670L

Visit www.llamallamabook.com
to download FREE printable activity pages,
games and

NO! In fact, Mama Llama
knows it’s everything she put in the shopping card is flying out of it. Llama Llama
is small! He doesn’t want to be shopping—he wants to be playing.

“Uproariously funny… Dewdney’s tale is
charmed.” —School Library Journal

It’s Christmas, and Llama Llama needs to
buy presents, bake cookies, decorate the
tree… but how long is it until Christmas?
Will it ever come? Finally, Llama Llama just
can’t wait any more! It takes a miracle from
Mama Llama to remind him that “Gifts are
nice, but there’s another. The true gift is,
we have each other.”

“This picture book will be a pleasure to share
with friends, old and new.” —School Library
Journal

“Adorable and endearing… a perfect choice
for preschool read-alouds.” —Kirkus Reviews

“Charming.” —School Library Journal on Llama
Llama

“Perfect preparation and reassurance for little
ones embarking on their first steps away from
Mama. And had to stay home with Mama. And
when her daughters sniffled and sneezed
Mama Llama to remind them that “Gifts are
nice, but there’s another. The true gift is,
we have each other.”

“Emotionally realistic storytelling, a boun-
cing rhythm, skillful charcoal, and expressive
colored lines make for a pleasing
package.” —School Library Journal

“Time to get gift, get dressed, and get going,
because it is Llama Llama’s best day of school!
Meet the teachers, find new friends, but wait…
where is Mama Llama going? It’s too much for little
Llama… Llama Llama misses Mama! All
school-age children will relate to Llama Llama
in this sweet and funny story. With repeated
readings, the llama llama in your life will learn the
came thing little Llama does—that school
can be fun!"
Students can benefit from opportunities to listen to and to discuss books read aloud to them by adults. During a read-aloud, teachers should model thinking strategies and skills to enhance students’ comprehension of the story. Modeling and guided practice during such activities will provide students with the tools needed to deepen comprehension when reading independently. Try your hand at incorporating some of the thinking strategies listed below into your daily lesson plans and use them to guide your read-aloud and teaching techniques.

• Ask your readers to make predictions about the text. They should focus on the characters’ feelings, events in the plot, and problem/solution situation.
• Readers can become involved in the story by visualizing the scenes that take place throughout the book. Ask students to draw their own versions of the story action before seeing the real illustrations.
• Guide your students in formulating questions about specific characters or events in the text. Read on to answer their questions.
• Readers should try to infer or draw conclusions about characters’ feelings or actions as you read the text aloud.

Making Connections To Real Life Through Text & Pictures

The Llama Llama books offer excellent opportunities to guide students in making meaningful connections to pictures or to a part of a story that reminds them of something that has happened in their own lives. Focus on the experiences of bedtime, shopping, missing a family, friends, toys, etc. Get to know Llama Llama by reading Llama Llama Red Pajama, Llama Llama Misses Mama, and Llama Llama Holiday Drama and Llama Llama Time to Share out loud to your class. Use the text and pictures in each book to find examples of Llama’s values and personality traits. As a class, make a list of Llama’s favorite things and words that describe his personality. Do the same for Mama Llama. Compare and contrast your lists. How are your students similar to and different from little Llama? Hand out a Venn diagram worksheet that students can use to record their thoughts about themselves on one side, thoughts about Llama on the other, and the things they have in common in the middle. Little Llama grows older with each book. Read the books in order and discuss how he changes. What does he learn at the end of each story?

Values & Decision Making

Explain the concepts of values and personalities to your students. Ask students to think about things they personally value: their families, friends, toys, etc. Get to know Llama Llama by reading Llama Llama Red Pajama, Llama Llama Misses Mama, and Llama Llama Holiday Drama and Llama Llama Time to Share. Assign specific action sequences to groups of students in your classroom. For example, “stomps and pouts” or “jumps and shouts” or “hums a tune.” Then host an interactive read-aloud! Read each story to your class, pausing at the action sequences for students to stand and act out the motions of the words.

How many of your students know what a llama is? Have they ever seen real llamas at the zoo, in books or on TV? Look up llama in the dictionary and the encyclopedia to learn a little about how the animal acts in real life. Do the llamas in Anna Dewdney’s books act the same way as real llamas? How or how not? Can your students think of other books they’ve read with animals that act like humans?

Select vocabulary words from each of the three books that might be unfamiliar to your students, such as hum, fret, sobbemper, drama, fuss, post, weeping, irizzy, patient, or snuggle. Write the words on the board and describe their meanings. Ask the children to try using one of the new words in a sentence of their own or invite students to act them out.

All three Llama Llama books are written in rhyme. Explain to your students what rhyming words and poetry are. Give examples of places where rhymes are used, such as songs (“Twinkle Twinkle Little Star”) or other books. Ask them to identify which words rhyme with which throughout the Llama Llama stories. Then challenge students to write their own four-line verse.

ROLE PLAYING

Little Llama experiences a very wide range of emotions throughout his three books! Talk with your class about basic emotions, such as happiness, sadness, fear, loneliness, surprise, anger, boredom, and love. Ask your students to share examples of times when they might feel a certain emotion. Call out an emotion and ask students to make a face that represents that particular feeling. Or make a face yourself and ask them to call out the corresponding emotion. As you read the books, have your students identify the feelings Llama Llama experiences based on the faces he makes.

Did your students notice that little Llama always carries a stuffed llama with him? Why do they think he does this? Ask your students to each think of something they love that makes them feel safe. Invite them to draw a picture of the item and to share with a partner why they chose that specific thing. They can even bring their items in for show-and-tell!

EMOTIONAL LEARNING

Explain what a llama is and how the same character—also as new ones—appear in each of the books about Llama. After you’ve read the books to your class, invite your students to brainstorm about what Llama Llama’s next adventure should be. As your students call out suggestions, record them on the board or on large chart paper. Select one or two ideas from the list and write a paragraph or two as a group detailing what happens to little Llama in your class’s new story. Or record your students’ ideas in a letter to Anna! Send it to her at:

Anna Dewdney, c/o Viking Children’s Books
Penguin Young Readers Group
345 Hudson Street, 15th Floor, New York, NY 10014

LANGUAGE

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ARTS & CRAFTS

Embarking on new adventures—such as going to school for the first time or joining a new classroom—can be challenging for young children. Make assimilating into your classroom community a comfortable transition by helping your students get to know one another—and you! Provide name tags for the children and ask them to decorate the tags with illustrations of their favorite places, foods, hobbies, etc. Then have them walk around the room and share their drawings with their classmates and see who has things in common with them.

After story time with a book about little Llama, ask your students to draw a picture of their favorite scene from the story. Ask them to share why they picked the part they did. Did they relate to it in a special way? Did it make them laugh?

SHARED WRITING

Show your students all three books in the Llama Llama series. Explain what a series is and how the same character—as well as new ones—appear in each of the books about Llama. After you’ve read the books to your class, invite your students to brainstorm about what Llama Llama’s next adventure should be. As your students call out suggestions, record them on the board or on large chart paper. Select one or two ideas from the list and write a paragraph or two as a group detailing what happens to little Llama in your class’s new story. Or record your students’ ideas in a letter to Anna! Send it to her at:

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reading comprehension & active thinking

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ELEMENTARY CHARACTER ANALYSIS

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MAKING CONNECTIONS

To Real Life Through Text & Pictures

The Llama Llama books offer excellent opportunities to guide students in making meaningful connections to pictures or to a part of a story that reminds them of something that has happened in their own lives. Focus on the experiences of bedtime, shopping, missing a parent figure, the first day of school, and trying new things. Ask your students to share experiences they may have had that are similar to what Llama experiences in the books.

Llama Llama Red Pajama, Llama Llama Mad at Mama, Llama Llama Misses Mama, Llama Llama Holiday Drama and Llama Llama Time to Share lend themselves to many areas of study and can be easily incorporated into classroom lesson plans. Use the questions and activities below to encourage the application of critical thinking strategies and skills and to foster a deeper connection for students with the text, illustrations, and story. The Llama Llama books are wonderful tools that can be used to promote social and emotional learning and development.

LANGUAGE

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It’s holiday time, and Llama Llama just can’t wait for Christmas. How many more days again? 16 . . . 15 . . . 14 . . . 13 . . . 12 . . . 11 . . . 10 . . . 9 . . . 8 . . . 7 . . . 6 . . . 5 . . . 4 . . . 3 . . . 2 . . . 1 . . . 0 . . .

Cookies are baking, a warm fire is waiting.

It’s Mama Llama to the rescue in this warm-hearted, true-to-life holiday drama!

“Unusually funny . . . Dewdney’s tale is bound to become a comic classic.”
—Kirkus Reviews

“An ideal choice for preschoolers giggling and parents appreciating the familiar scenario.”
—Publishers Weekly

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—Children’s Literature

“Uproariously funny . . . a comical classic.”
—School Library Journal

“A real charmer that will leave preschoolers running and playing with their favorites.”
—Booklist

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Anna Dewdney is the author-illustrator of New York Times bestsellers Llama Llama Red Pajama, Llama Llama Mad at Mama and Llama Llama Misses Mama. She lives in a very old house in southern Vermont and is the mama of two away-at-school daughters and two stay-at-home dogs.