Ms Higgs Starts School

Story by Carmel Reilly
Illustrations by Beth Norling



PM

For teachers' inspection ONLY

Ms Higgs Starts School

Level 18
Running Words 531 **Text Type** Narrative (Imaginative)
Curriculum Area Literacy

Retelling to encourage critical thinking about the content

Ask each student to retell the story in his or her own words.
Record the retelling for further discussion and reflection.

Questions to reinforce meaning and stimulate discussion

Literal

Why was Ms Higgs feeling a little bit scared?
What happened as Ms Higgs hurried towards her classroom?
When did Ms Higgs set up her classroom?
Where does Jack's mother work?

Inferential

Why was Jack excited when he saw the classroom?
Why was Ms Higgs glad that Jack was in the line for her class?
How did Ms Higgs feel when Jack's mother came back with her bag?
Why did Jack's mother say Ms Higgs would be a good teacher?

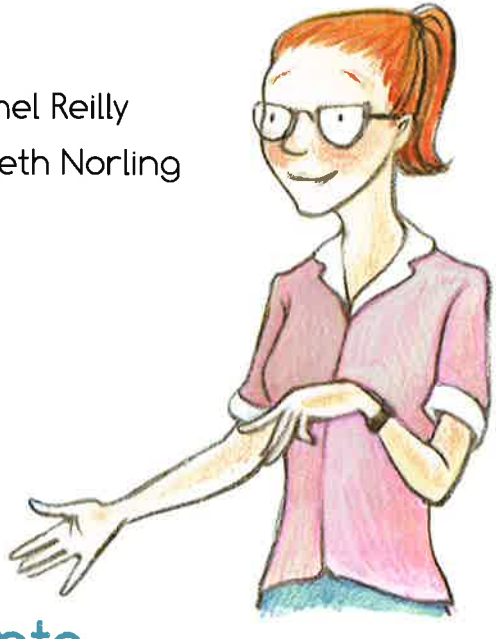
Links with other PM Guided Reading Books and Cards

Level 18	Card	Recount	*A Big Morning*
Level 17	Book	Narrative	*Mai's Bus Ride*
Level 17	Book	Narrative	*What a Day!*
Level 18	Book	Narrative	*The Class Slide Show*

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Chapter 1

Monday Morning

It was Monday morning.
Ms Higgs got up at six o'clock,
because she didn't want to be late.

Ms Higgs was a new teacher.
This was her first day at school.
She was very happy,
but she was feeling a little bit scared, too.

Ms Higgs wanted to be a good teacher.
She hoped the children in her class
would like her.

And she hoped she would know what to do
if something went wrong.

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By half-past seven,
Ms Higgs was on her way to school in a big bus.

Suddenly, the cars and other buses close by
started to slow down.
Then, some of them stopped.

"Oh, no!" said Ms Higgs.
She could see that a car not far ahead
had broken down.
"I can't be late on my first day," she cried.

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Chapter 2

A Little Bit Late

It was half-past eight
when, at last, Ms Higgs got to the school gates.

There wasn't much time left
before classes were to begin.

As she hurried towards her classroom,
she dropped a bag.

Jack and his mother were walking past.

"Can we help?" asked Jack's mum.

"We can carry some of your things," said Jack.

"Thank you very much!" said Ms Higgs.

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