



Hi! Fly Guy
by Ted Arnold

Recommended Ages:
5–9

Summary: A boy had a pet fly. He named him Fly Guy. And Fly Guy could even say the boy's name—"Buzz!" Amazing! Incredible! However, the rest of the world isn't so convinced that flies make good pets.

Discussion Questions:

1. What do you notice on the cover?
2. Where do you think the story is set?
3. What do you know about flies? Where do they live? What do they eat?
4. Do you think a fly would make a good pet? Why or why not?
5. What kind of pet(s) do you have? What do you have to do to take care of your pet(s)?
6. How are the speech and thought bubbles similar and how are they different? How do we know when a character is talking vs. thinking?
7. Look closely at the illustrations. How do you think Fly Guy is feeling at different moments in the story? Happy, excited, grumpy, disgusted, scared?
8. Do you like Fly Guy? Does Fly Guy make a good pet? What is a pet and how is it different from a wild animal? What other animals or insects do people keep as pets?

Activities:

- Write clues about different pets and take turns guessing what the pet is.
- Collect some rocks from outside. Use markers to draw and create a "pet rock." Be sure to give the pet rock a name! Write special "care" instructions for the pet rock.
- Discuss or research facts about flies. Have a debate, one side giving reasons why a fly would make a good pet. The other side will give reasons why a fly would not make a good pet.
- Define the word "pest." What makes an animal a pest? Is Fly Guy a pest? Come up with a list of bugs and insects. Think of ways that these bugs make the world a better place.

Adapted from Milwaukee Public Library.