



Mercer Mayer

that happened to him when and write the Little Critter wife, Gina, live in New York he was a little kid. He and his write stories about things Mercer Mayer has published www.littlecritter.com stories together. You can over 300 books. He likes to learn more about Mercer at:



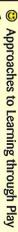
OTHER BOOKS BY MERCER MAYER:

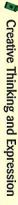
Just Me **Bubble Bubble**

This is My Family A Monster Followed Me to School

Hiccup

Me, Too





Health, Wellness and Physical Development

Language and Literacy Development: Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening

Mathematics Thinking and Expression

Partnerships for Learning: Families, Learning Environments and Commuities

Science Thinking and Technology: Exploration, Inquiry and Invention

Social Emotional Development

Social Studies Thinking: Connecting "Me" to My Community and the Larger World

I Was so Mad

Little Critter never gets to do anything he wants-even tickling the goldfish and keeping frogs in the bathtub are off limits. His family finally makes him "so mad" that he decides to run away.



- Ask your child to tell you about a time when he/she was feeling angry, mad or upset. What did they do to feel better?
- When driving in the car or riding on a bus with your child, play the "What if" game. For example, "What if you tried to get out of your car seat? What if you put your arm out of the window? What might happen?"
- * Have your child organize a non-competitive game in the neighborhood.

 Organize a kickball game and do not keep score.
- Little Critter did not make some good choices in this book. Describe a time when children might have to make a choice (choosing to share a toy or making a healthy food choice) and have the child draw a picture of a good choice.

OTHER BOOKS ABOUT ANGER AND RUNNING AWAY...

How to Take the Grrrr Out of Anger by Elizabeth Verdick and Marjorie Lisovskis Mad Isn't Bad: A Child's Book About Anger (Elf-Help Books for Kids)
by Michaelene Mundy and R. W. Alley
Polly's Running Away Book by Frances Thomas and Sally Gardner

Just A Mess

It's time for Little Critter to clean his room.

- Give your child various "throw away" items that are found in your house, such as paper towel rolls, old mail, lids, etc. Ask him or her to arrange the items into a sculpture or to create a masterpiece. Encourage him/ her to describe what she/he made.
- Help your child to practice following directions through acting out situations For example, ask your child to follow a simple direction such as "put away your toys". Then discuss what would happen if the directions weren't followed, such as the toys being taken away, etc.
- Give your child materials to imitate you doing daily chores like cooking or cleaning. Talk about what you are doing.
- Explain to your child how to change from one activity to another. Give your child warnings when getting ready to do a new activity. For example, "In five minutes we will have to clean up so we can get dinner ready."

OTHER BOOKS ABOUT MESSES..

Monster Mess! by Margery Cuyler and S.D. Schindler
Mouse Mess by Linnea Asplind Riley
Don't Want To Clean My Room: A Mess of Poems About Chores
by Hope Vestergaard

just Me and My Puppy

Little Critter learns all about taking care of a pet.

With your child, talk about different types of pets that people have. Talk about what pets need and how people take care of pets. Visit a pet store.



- Visit the Humane Society. Make a list of how to take care of a pet.
- If your child does not have a pet, help out a neighbor, friend or relative who does have a pet for an afternoon or evening. Have your child feed, water and take care of the pets needs.
- Play "Who's my Baby?" Name an animal and ask your child to tell you the names of the baby. For example, dog-puppy, cat-kitten. Then ask your child to name the adult and you name the baby.

OTHER BOOKS ABOUT PETS...

Puppies! Puppies! Puppies! by Susan Meyers and David Walker
The Pigeon Wants a Puppy by Mo Willems
Taking Care of Pets by Susan Ring

Am Helping

Little Critter helps out around the house.

- Little Critter helps members of his family.

 Draw a picture of how you and your child help each other.
- Whave your child help you sort laundry by colors. Ask your child to put the clean laundry in the basket and assist in putting the clothing away.
- Talk about how your family's schedule has changed since kindergarten started. Have the child make a list of how she/he will have to help get himself or herself ready. For example, have your child put out his clothing for the next day, brush his teeth, etc.
- Sak your child help your plan for a family meal. Allow him to find the items in the grocery store, help cook and set items on the table and clean up.

OTHER BOOKS ABOUT MAKING BREAD...

The Berenstain Bears Lend a Helping Hand by Stan and Jan Berenstain
Helping Out by George Ancona

Herman the Helper by Robert Kraus, Jose Aruego, and Ariane Dewey