



Monster Needs to Go to School (Monster & Me)

By Paul Czajak

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Another exuberant addition to the award-winning *Monster & Me*TM series, addressing back-to-school jitters and the difficulty of dealing with bullies—especially when they're friends.

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Monster Needs to Go to School (Monster & Me) By Paul Czajak Bibliography

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- Original language: English
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- Dimensions: 10.00" h x .0" w x 10.00" l, .0 pounds
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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

PreS-Gr 1—Czajak and Grieb's newest installment in their series addresses the topic of first day of school jitters and playground bullying. After much convincing and reassurance from the school-age boy narrator, Monster agrees that he does have a lot to learn and gets on the bus to go to school with his human. In art, music, and French class, Monster proudly enjoys all that he is absorbing at school, even though he self-consciously stands out among classmates. Initially afraid of being teased by bullies himself, particularly because he's "blue and very hairy," Monster is able to stand up to his friends when they become the bullies. At recess Monster notices children teasing one another and he quickly speaks up: "I know we're friends, but teasing's wrong./It's something I despise./No one should be ridiculed. There is no compromise." Grieb's fun, animated, and bold illustrations are vivid and packed with detail for lively visual impact. However, the rhyming text, while playful and feel-good, is somewhat forced and uninspired. Further, the message about how to deal with bullies is handled in a quick and facile manner. VERDICT Order where the earlier titles in the series are popular. An additional purchase for most libraries.—Brienne Colombo, Pequannock Township Public Library, NJ

Review

The Monster & Me™ series is a 2015 Silver Moonbeam Children's Book Award winner for Best Picture Book Series

"A rhyming bullying tale with some worthwhile lessons." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"Monster is off to school, reluctantly for sure. After all, he is 'blue and hairy.' What if he gets teased? Another rollicking addition to Czajak's series, *Monster Needs to Go to School* is a great book for teachers and parents to address the 'beginning school jitters.'"—Ellen Fischer, author of *If an Elephant Went to School*

"...the perfect introduction for easing 'First Time at School' jitters. It will be a favorite long after school has begun."—Darlene Beck-Jacobson, blogger and author of *Wheels of Change*

"This latest entry into the Monster & Me series takes a fun look at starting school, giving little ones who may be getting ready for Pre-K or Kindergarten an idea of what to expect (and reinforcing these ideas for kids already in daycare and pre-k programs): learning the ABCs, raising your hand when you want to speak, and inviting others to play at recess."—Mom Read It

"...tackles a big issue with tact, fun, and creativity. The rhyme scheme employed simply adds to the merriment without overpowering the messages it is conveying."—Satisfaction for Insatiable Readers

"I was happy about the diversity of the children and adults in the book. I loved that it addresses bullying, a topic we have been talking about at home. Monster won't play with some kids until they stop being bullies, so they stop! ... Thumbs up for Monster!" —I Love Kids Books

"Mr. Czajak skillfully points out that being a bystander is just about as bad as being a bully. Ms. Grieb's illustrations create a sense of liveliness, and are very colorful." —This Kid Reviews Books

"Being afraid of school as a first-time student can be pretty stressful. ... Learning to deal with these issues

can be smooth or fraught with stumbling blocks (rocks, tears, punches, whatever). But when you've a friend like Monster then things go much better." —Chat With Vera

"*Monster Needs to Go to School* continues the series' themes of reinforcing proper behaviors, relationship skills, friendship, and compassion. Grieb's digital illustrations once again elevate the **Monster & Me™** series with bright, interesting scenes, punctuated with the small details I love to see. Distinctive facial features best express the emotions and reactions of Grieb's diverse classroom of kids. Those lucky enough to have the **Monster & Me™** books will love *Monster Needs to Go to School*." —Kid Lit Reviews

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Praise for the Monster & Me™ series

Monster Needs Your Vote:

"Playful rhyming text and comically overblown rhetoric (oratory skills, platform, grassroots movement) combined with colorful digital illustrations exemplify the intricacies of being a candidate and the importance of the democratic process. The extra bonus is that after a couple of missteps, Monster hits his stride by campaigning to save libraries. VERDICT A good introduction to what happens on a campaign, how voting for a president works, and the dynamics of civic engagement."—*School Library Journal*

"Monster has the best platform EVER in this furry fun first look at elections! (He had me at 'desserts'—then it got even better!) *Monster Needs Your Vote* has mine!"—Ame Dyckman, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Wolfie the Bunny*

Monster Needs a Party:

"Like the other Monster titles, the rhymes are fun and the illustrations are bursting with vivid colors and numerous details. Further, the lessons are simple (be flexible, be persistent) and not overdone. The story reminds readers that life can be amazing if we are positive and open to new possibilities. VERDICT An upbeat story that will appeal to all young children."—*School Library Journal*

"Playful, charming, and featuring exuberant, colorful illustrations, *Monster Needs a Party* is pure fun to read aloud and share."—*The Midwest Book Review*, Children's Bookwatch

Monster Needs a Christmas Tree:

"Sendakesque ... The cute finale brings to mind Charlie Brown ... As before, Czajak and Grieb make Monster's perpetual overexcitement palpable and identifiable."—*Booklist*

"...[P]roviding children with a valuable lesson in persistence and determination. ... The Monster & Me series is going strong and, from all indications, has a long life ahead of it."—*Foreword Reviews*, 5 Star Review

Monster Needs His Sleep:

"Czajak and Grieb pair up once again for a hilarious take on the many creative ways a monster attempts to avoid bedtime. ... Sure to be a welcome choice for the going-to-bed time that never seems to end." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"Featuring an endearing character children will adore, this imaginative book will be hard to put down...even at bedtime!" —Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen, author of *Pirate Princess* and *Chicks Run Wild*

Monster Needs a Costume:

"...Given the jaunty flow of the story and the humorous details on every page, put this at the top of the list for unscary options come October." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"The rhymes, quite obviously, are bouncy and irreverent, and just as much heck is raised by Grieb's cartoony illustrations of the enormous, blue, horned beast with the happy underbite..." —*Booklist*

About the Author

Paul Czajak got an F with the words "get a tutor" on his college writing paper and, after that, he never thought he'd become a writer. But after spending twenty years as a chemist, he knew his creativity could no longer be contained. Paul lives in New Jersey with his wife and two little monsters. In addition to the *Monster & Me*TM series, he's also the author of *Seaver the Weaver*, a contributor to *The Huffington Post*, and a reviewer for *The New York Journal of Books*.

Wendy Grieb is a professional working in the Los Angeles animation industry and teaching animation. She is also an Annie Award-winning storyboard artist, who has worked as a developmental artist, illustrator, and character designer for companies such as Disney, Nickelodeon, Sony, Klasky-Csupo, White Wolf, and more. She lives in Yorba Linda, CA.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Robin Almeida:

This *Monster Needs to Go to School (Monster & Me)* tend to be reliable for you who want to be described as a successful person, why. The reason of this *Monster Needs to Go to School (Monster & Me)* can be one of the great books you must have is actually giving you more than just simple studying food but feed you actually with information that perhaps will shock your prior knowledge. This book is actually handy, you can bring it everywhere you go and whenever your conditions in e-book and printed people. Beside that this *Monster Needs to Go to School (Monster & Me)* forcing you to have an enormous of experience like rich vocabulary, giving you tryout of critical thinking that we know it useful in your day exercise. So , let's have it and luxuriate in reading.

Maria Antoine:

The e-book untitled *Monster Needs to Go to School (Monster & Me)* is the publication that recommended to you to read. You can see the quality of the publication content that will be shown to anyone. The language that publisher use to explained their ideas are easily to understand. The author was did a lot of exploration when write the book, so the information that they share for your requirements is absolutely accurate. You also will get the e-book of *Monster Needs to Go to School (Monster & Me)* from the publisher to make you considerably more enjoy free time.

Chad Jones:

Reading can called brain hangout, why? Because while you are reading a book specially book entitled *Monster Needs to Go to School (Monster & Me)* the mind will drift away trough every dimension,

wandering in every aspect that maybe mysterious for but surely will end up your mind friends. Imaging every single word written in a publication then become one contact form conclusion and explanation this maybe you never get just before. The Monster Needs to Go to School (Monster & Me) giving you one more experience more than blown away your head but also giving you useful data for your better life in this particular era. So now let us show you the relaxing pattern here is your body and mind will be pleased when you are finished looking at it, like winning a. Do you want to try this extraordinary shelling out spare time activity?

Mary Alejandro:

This Monster Needs to Go to School (Monster & Me) is great book for you because the content and that is full of information for you who always deal with world and have to make decision every minute. This book reveal it data accurately using great coordinate word or we can declare no rambling sentences included. So if you are read that hurriedly you can have whole details in it. Doesn't mean it only will give you straight forward sentences but tough core information with lovely delivering sentences. Having Monster Needs to Go to School (Monster & Me) in your hand like finding the world in your arm, data in it is not ridiculous one particular. We can say that no reserve that offer you world in ten or fifteen second right but this publication already do that. So , this really is good reading book. Hello Mr. and Mrs. stressful do you still doubt which?

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