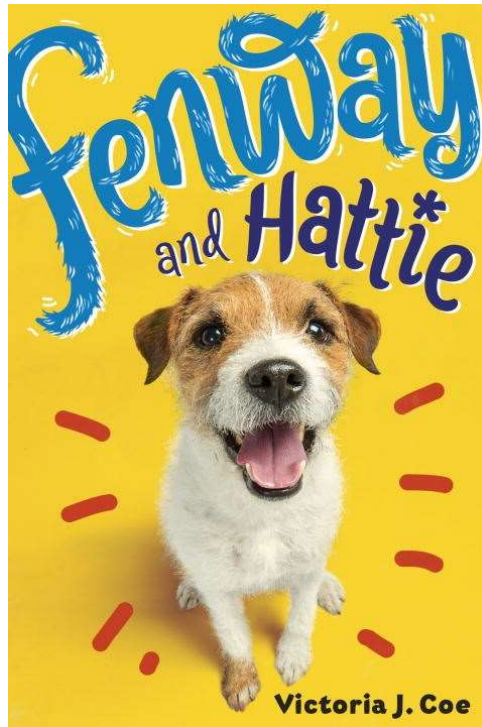


Family Fun Pack

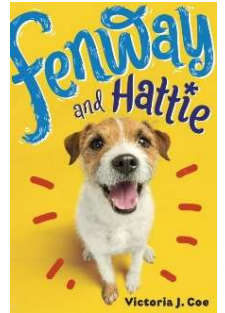


Fenway and Hattie
by Victoria Coe



Read Aloud Tips For Families

Fenway and Hattie by Victoria Coe



- ✓ **Make reading time a priority** – Sit down as a family and decide on a daily reading time, and then consider it an appointment that needs to be kept. Some families might find that right before bed is the best time, but early risers might enjoy reading at breakfast. For younger listeners, bath time can be great! Build it into your daily routine and soon you will find that everyone is ready and waiting to hear what comes next in the story.
- ✓ **Show emotion that matches the story** – All of the books from **Read to Them** capture a range of emotions over the course of the story. When reading aloud, mirroring the emotions felt by the characters will make the story more meaningful to your listener.
- ✓ **Vary your rhythm** – Have fun with the language in your book. During suspenseful sections, *slow down* and let the suspense build. During a particularly meaningful moment, *pause* and let the impact settle. During emotion-packed scenes, drop your voice to a *whisper*. When you are reading aloud, you are performing the story. Authors don't want their stories performed in monotone!
- ✓ **Don't be afraid to be silly** – Accents, funny voices, and sound effects are all great tools to use to make reading aloud more engaging. Character-specific voices or mannerisms also help listeners follow the dialogue. It might be a challenge, but it's worth the effort to make your story come alive.
- ✓ **Stay engaged with your listener throughout your reading time** – Stop from time to time to explain an unfamiliar vocabulary word, discuss an important point, or ask your child to make a prediction. You don't want to derail the story too much, but you do want to make reading together interactive.
- ✓ **Expect some fidgeting** – Listening during reading time does not have to be a stationary activity. Some listeners will sit still as stones with eyes and ears fixed on you, and that's great. But other listeners stay more engaged with something in their hands like a small toy, some crayons, or a stuffed animal. Some children might listen better if allowed to walk around the room, or even bounce on the bed a bit. Work together to find the way that works best for your child.

B

Give out silly Fenway-style nicknames to all of the humans in your home!

Discuss your favorite scene.

Make dog treats! Give them to your dog or donate them to a shelter.
bit.ly/kgtreat

Pretend to be a dog! Try doing something you do every day the way Fenway would do it.

Build a reading fort together!
bit.ly/readfort

I

Watch squirrels in your area and share your observations with Project Squirrel.
bit.ly/skwurl

Correctly answer a trivia question from the [Family Fun Cards](#) in this pack.

Get your whole family to read together in your pajamas!

Make bookmarks together!

Start a family dialogue using a question from the [Family Fun Cards](#) in this pack.

N

Write a poem about a character from the book. Try a haiku, acrostic, or limerick!

Get out of your house and read a chapter out “in the wild” together!



Write a letter to one of the characters from the book.

What would Fenway do? Talk about a situation and discuss how he would handle it.

G

Retell a scene from the book from Hattie’s perspective.

Crack the code and visit Victoria J. Coe’s secret page! Check out bit.ly/vjcsecret for details.

Hot Seat! Pretend to be a character from the book and let someone interview you.

Write a book review of [Fenway and Hattie](#) for your teacher or school librarian.

Find a silly book about squirrels from your local public library or independent book store.

O

Use the [Connection Guide](#) and let the author and illustrator know you’re reading their book!

Research Jack Russell Terriers and learn three new facts about them.

Watch the trailer for the sequel: *Fenway and Hattie and the Evil Bunny Gang*.
bit.ly/fen2trail

Make a list of new words you discover while reading together and learn their definitions.

Share a picture of your family reading with [@readtothem](#).

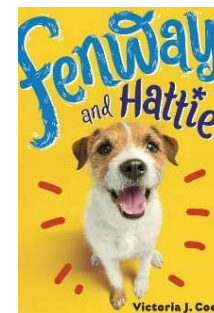




Family Fun Cards

Pages 1-44

Fenway and Hattie by Victoria Coe



What do you know?

What is Hattie's regular smell?

What is the "squirrel's nest that looks like a house"?

What does Fenway think when he hears the doorbell ring?

What do you think?

Moving to a new home can be exciting and scary all at the same time. What are the good things about moving? What are the bad things? Have you ever moved? How would you feel if your family was going to move to a new home? To a new town?

What can you do?

Design a Treehouse

"There, in the little squirrel house...a face is peering out the window..." (p. 26)

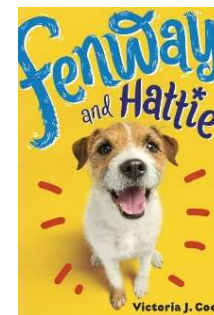
Hattie loves the treehouse. But, because the book is told from Fenway's perspective, we don't know what the inside looks like. So you get to decide! Grab some paper, pencils, rulers, markers, collage materials, and glue and design your perfect treehouse. You can do a drawing of the outside, showing how it will stay up in the tree. Then, decide what the inside will look like. Will it have furniture? Will you paint the walls? Will you have curtains on the windows or shades so you can keep your space private? How will you keep your stuff safe from those dreaded squirrels?



Family Fun Cards

Pages 45-103

Fenway and Hattie by Victoria Coe



What do you know?

What is the “very definition of impossible”?

What is the Perfectly Still Dog?

Who says, “It all started with that ball and glove”?

What do you think?

When Hattie plays with Angel, Fenway feels *left out*. That *left out* feeling can be one of the worst feelings for dogs and kids. Have you ever felt *left out*? Have you ever noticed someone else being *left out*? What can you do to help?

What can you do?

Despicable Squirrels

“No squirrels allowed!” (p. 73)

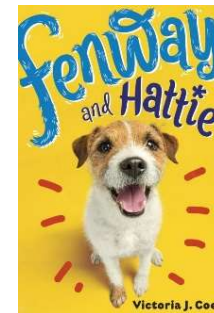
Fenway worries a lot about squirrels, so let’s learn about them. What kinds of squirrels live in your area? What do squirrels like to eat? Where do they build their nests? Do they hibernate in your area? How do flying squirrels fly? Next, head outside to do some field research. Take a walk in your neighborhood or a nearby park and see if you can observe some pesky squirrels in action. No squirrels? Try observing other living creatives in your neighborhood or park – chipmunks, birds, kids, adults. Take a notebook with you like a real researcher and record your observations.



Family Fun Cards

Pages 105-162

Fenway and Hattie by Victoria Coe



What do you know?

What is Fenway's "life's work"?

What awakens Fenway from his nightmare?

What advice does Fenway give to Patches?

What do you think?

Fenway explains to Lance that it is a dog's job to make his human happy. Do you think people have a responsibility to help make other people happy? When you make someone else happy, how does it make you feel?

What can you do?

At Home Camp-Out (or In)

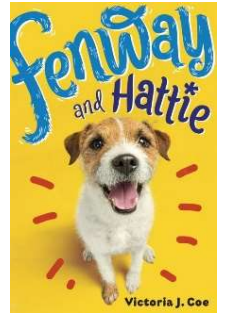
"She rushes over and collects her bag and rolled-up blanket. She turns and heads out." (p. 136)

Backyard camp-outs don't have to be reserved for when you are angry like Hattie. You can have one just for fun. If you have camping gear and a backyard, pick a night to sleep outside. Take some books, flashlights, and snacks. Cuddle up, have a treat, and read together. Don't have all that camping gear? Have an Almost Camp-Out. Put on your pajamas and go outside for everything but the sleeping part. No backyard? Have a Camp-In. Make a fort out of blankets and chairs and camp right in your living room. Spending time with family – and some great books – will make the time special.



Family Fun Cards Answer Key

Fenway and Hattie by Victoria Coe



Pages 1-44

What is Hattie's regular smell?
Mint and Vanilla

What is the "squirrel's nest that looks like a house"?
A treehouse

What does Fenway think when he hears the doorbell ring?
Intruders!

Pages 45-103

What is the "very definition of impossible"?
Hanging out and waiting patiently

What is the Perfectly Still Dog?
A statue of a dog with a flower pot

Who says, "It all started with that ball and glove"?
Goldie

Pages 105-162

What is Fenway's "life's work"?
To protect his human from danger

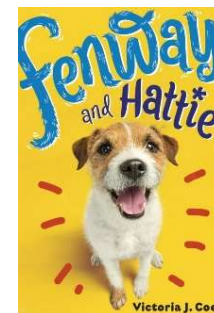
What awakens Fenway from his nightmare?
Thunder (boom-kabooms)

What advice does Fenway give to Patches?
Never lose hope



Connection Guide

Fenway and Hattie by Victoria Coe



Connect with Read to Them

Hashtags: [#ReadtoThem](#), [#1School1Book](#), [#1District1Book](#)

Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, & Pinterest: [@readtothem](#)

Email: programs@readtothem.org

Website: <https://www.readtothem.org/>

Connect with author Victoria Coe

Are you enjoying reading about Fenway and his adventures with his small human? Tell the author!

Website: www.victoriajcoe.com

YouTube: bit.ly/vjcoeyt

Instagram and Twitter: [@victoriajcoe](#)

Goodreads: www.goodreads.com/victoriajcoe

Connect with the publisher, Holiday House

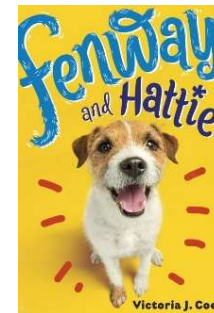
Facebook and Twitter: [@puffinbooks](#)

Instagram: [@puffinbooksusa](#)



Next Book Connections

Fenway and Hattie by Victoria J. Coe



If you loved *Fenway and Hattie*, here are some other books your family might enjoy reading together...

Other books by Victoria J. Coe:

- *Fenway and Hattie and the Evil Bunny Gang*
- *Fenway and Hattie Up to New Tricks*
- *Fenway and Hattie in the Wild*
- *Make Way for Fenway* series

Picture books with similar themes:

- *Love Is My Favourite Thing* – Emma Chichester Clark
- *Can I Be Your Dog?* – Troy Cummings
- *Good Rosie!* – Kate DiCamillo
- *Please Take Me for a Walk* – Susan Gal
- *I Love You, Fred* – Mick Inkpen
- *Once I Ate a Pie* – Patricia MacLachlan
- *Our Very Own Dog* – Amanda McCardie
- *Go Home Flash* – Ruth Paul
- *Aggie and Ben* – Lori Ries
- *Why Do Dogs Sniff Butts?* – Lily Snowden-Fine

Novels with similar themes:

- *The One and Only Bob* – Katherine Applegate
- *A Boy Called Bat* – Elana K. Arnold
- *Monster and Boy* – Hannah Barnaby
- *The World According to Humphrey* – Betty G. Birney
- *Dog Diaries* – Betsy Byars, Betsy Duffey, & Laurie Myers
- *Ribsy* – Beverly Cleary
- *Saving Winslow* – Sharon Creech
- *Marley: A Dog Like No Other* – John Grogan
- *Guinea Dog* – Patrick Jennings
- *The Adventures of a South Pole Pig* – Chris Kurtz
- *Because of the Rabbit* – Cynthia Lord
- *Good Dog McTavish* – Meg Rosoff
- *Wedgie & Gizmo* – Suzanne Selfors
- *Appleblossom the Possum* – Holly Goldberg Sloan
- *My Pet Human* – Yasmine Surovec
- *8 Class Pets + 1 Squirrel ÷ 1 Dog = Chaos* – Vivian Vande Velde