Preschool Pages: Plenty of Pets!

Book Recommendations

**My Cat Looks Like My Dad**

The unseen narrator in this book describes all the ways their cat looks just like their dad. From their eyes to their hair (or fur), this is a great book to talk about similarities and differences. Also, who is the narrator? Can you guess who it will be by the end? Reread this book again to find the narrator hidden throughout the book!

**The Pet Potato**

Albert wants a pet! His dad gives him... a potato. Can Albert make the best of this situation? The potato can’t snuggle or do tricks. But just as Albert learns to love his new pet, the potato begins to rot. Albert plants his potato and finds it can grow into something new.

**My Pet Wants a Pet**

This sweet book tells the story of a boy who pleads for and ultimately gets a pet! But eventually his pet wants a pet, and his pet’s pet wants a pet, and so on! The cycle of love and care continues, and the message that caring for others brings joy is perfectly conveyed.

**Some Pets**

This rhyming romp shows a variety of pets, from dogs to hedgehogs, pot-bellied pigs to parakeets. In the last few pages, a pet show scene reveals awards, including Best Friend. The final two-page spread identifies each animal for those kids who like to know specifics!

**No Fuzzball!**

This cat loves destruction so much, she believes her name is “No Fuzzball” because she’s told “no” so much. When her family leaves for a day, she decides to be benevolent to her “subjects” and redecorate their home. Will her family love what she’s done?

**Pet Show!**

The neighborhood pet show is about to start, but Archie can’t find the stray cat that he wants to enter in the show! What solution will he come up with? This story about creativity, community, and kindness is another wonderful book by the author of *The Snowy Day*.
Author/Illustrator Spotlight

LEUYEN PHAM

Sometimes an author or illustrator has so many great titles, we wish we could name them all! This month, we want to highlight the work of LeUyen Pham. Pham, who once worked for a famous animation studio, is a prolific author/illustrator (with more than 100 titles to her credit!). She is known for not adhering to a particular style, and you can see her varied talents in the books below.

Beyond the Book!

- You may not want to create a pet potato, but you can make a pet rock! Explore outside and find a rock. Decorate it any way you want and give it a name.
- Write a story about your pet with your child! (It can be about your new pet rock or a pet you already have.) What is a day in the life of your pet rock? What do they do when you go out, like to the grocery store? Or what would happen if something extraordinary happened, like your pet went to space? Have fun with your imagination.
- Both Pet Show! and Some Pets feature pet shows. Host a stuffed animal pet show in your family or with friends. You and your child can make awards, such as Most Loved, Smallest Animal, or Longest Tail. Encourage the human participants to say a little bit about their beloved stuffed animals and then hand out the awards.
- Take a family (or even extended family) survey about pets. Use the data to create a bar graph on topics such as favorite type of pet, least favorite type of pet, or most wanted type of pet.)