

Pete the Cat: I Love My White Shoes – Reading Guide

Author: Eric Litwin

Illustrator: James Dean

Themes: positive attitude, big vs. small problems, managing disappointment

Lesson/Notes: *Sometimes people feel upset about problems. It's okay to feel upset or disappointed. Some problems might seem small to one person but seem big to someone else. We can keep a positive attitude with small problems. Ask for help if you don't know what to do about a problem.*

Discussion Questions

- *Did Pete the Cat's day go as he had planned? (no)*
- *How did Pete the Cat respond when his shoes turned a different color? (groovy, positive attitude, cool, sang)*
- *How can you tell the difference between a big problem and a little problem?*
 - o *Small problem: I can usually handle this on my own.*
 - *Examples: a friend stuck his tongue out at me, there is a chair in my way, I planned to go outside but it's raining, I dropped my papers, I'm last in line*
 - o *Big problem: I need to ask an adult for help.*
 - *Examples: a friend fell and is hurt, I am being bullied, I'm lost in a store*

Activity: Sing/Act It Out

- Child can listen to the song/story *I Love My White Shoes* (available on SoundCloud or YouTube) and dance or act out the story.
- Encourage child to “act it out” with various scenarios.
 - o *How could you respond positively if you had to be last in line?*
 - o *How could you respond positively if your water bottle spilled? etc.*
- Child may like to write his/her own song about responding to disappointments or unexpected changes.