

Milly's Family Fun (School of Monsters)

AUTHOR

SALLY RIPPIN

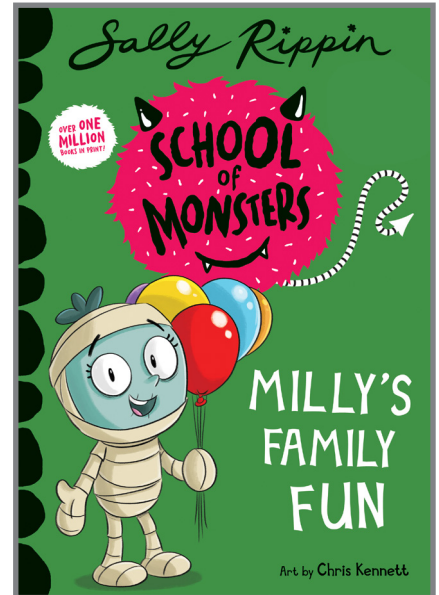
ILLUSTRATOR

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SCIS: 5487896

ISBN: 9781761211034

RECOMMENDED FOR: Lower Primary



SYNOPSIS

In this hilarious story, Milly learns that speaking up will save the day!

*When Milly's left out of the monsters' big day,
they all work together to find a new way!*

When Milly's school hosts a party for Mother's Day, Milly feels left out. But families come in all shapes and sizes—and soon, Milly realises she's got a lot to celebrate!

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Sally Rippin is one of Australia's best-selling and most-loved children's authors. She has written over 50 books for children and young adults, and her mantle holds numerous awards for her writing. Best known for her Billie B Brown, Hey Jack! and Polly and Buster series, Sally loves to write stories with heart, as well as characters that resonate with children, parents and teachers alike.

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Chris Kennett has been drawing ever since he could hold a pencil (or so his mum says). But professionally, Chris has been creating quirky characters for just over 20 years. He's best known for drawing weird and wonderful creatures from the Star Wars universe, but he also loves drawing cute and cuddly monsters—and he hopes you do too!

THEMES

- Families
- Difference
- Inclusion
- Celebrations

STUDY NOTES

THEMES

Celebrations

- Use this book as the starting point for discussions about celebrations and inclusivity. Invite students to share some of the special things they celebrate throughout the year. What are some of the rituals or foods or traditions they

have around their celebrations? Who are they for? How can we make space for all of the different ways that people celebrate in our classrooms and our communities?

Families

- What makes a family? In Milly's family, it's Milly and her dad, and in Bug's family, it's Bug and his two mums. Invite students to share the different people that are a part of their family, and discuss the many different ways people can form a family.
 - Make a list of the ways that your school accepts and acknowledges different families. Are there ways to be more inclusive of everyone?

WRITING STYLE

- The School of Monsters series are designed to help children learn to read, and use simple rhymes and decodable words to help to build confidence. Each book, has a handy vocabulary list that's colour-coded using a traffic light system so that readers can gradually build their vocabulary. Use each of these words in your own sentences, and practise them in your conversations this week.
 - Ask students to make a list of three new words they learn from the book, and to write a definition for each of them.
- In Milly, the rhyming words are written in blue. In the book, find the words that rhyme with the following:
 - Hard
 - Sun
 - Mad.

Can you think of any other words that rhyme with these?

- Write about something you look forward to celebrating with your family. Try to bring your celebration to life by using all of your senses—what smell do you associate with your celebrations? What are some of the things you see, taste, smell, touch and hear?

Comprehension

- What are the monsters celebrating?
- Why does Milly look so sad? What's another word for sad that's used in the book?
- What are some of the things the monsters are making for their celebrations?
- What does Bug offer to make Milly feel better?
- What are some of the things that Pat changes to make the celebrations more inclusive?
- According to the book, what makes a family?
- Describe some of the families who arrive at Special Family Day.
- Who is in Milly's family?

ILLUSTRATION STYLE

- Milly's outfit is pretty unique—discuss why mummies are wrapped in bandages. Look at the instructions for drawing Milly at the back of the book, and have a go at drawing her yourself. Explore the different outfits the other monsters are wearing in the book. What makes Milly stand out? What would you use if you were going to make a 3D version of Milly?
- Draw a map or a family tree of your family, including all the special people in your life.
- Come up with a plan to celebrate your special people—it might be organising a party at school or cooking them breakfast in bed.
- Make a party invitation for your celebration—make sure that you include all of the important information such as where it will be, who's invited, what you'll be doing and when it's going to happen!
- How do you think Milly feels when she arrives at Special Family Day with her dad? Write a short diary entry that describes the day from Milly's perspective.

AUTHOR OF NOTES

BEC KAVANAGH