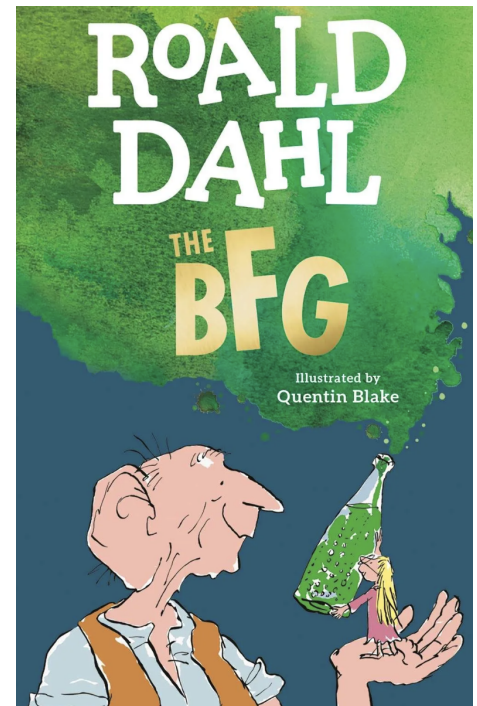


Selecting a book for your reading program is an important decision. To help you select the right book for your young readers and your community, we are providing the following context related to potentially sensitive content to help make a well-informed decision. As always, we encourage and recommend that book selections come after a full read of the book by multiple decision-makers or stakeholders.

The BFG
by Roald Dahl

Read This Book to Discover...

The charming tale of the relationship between orphan Sophie and the BFG, a Big Friendly Giant who lives among much larger and decidedly un-friendly giants. Yes, the kind of nasty giants who gallop off to eat children every night. The BFG speaks in a creative garbled slang that is easy for children to digest and remember: “I is a nice and jumbly giant!” It’s also filled with curious new terminology and Dahl inventions, such as: snozzcumpers, frobscottle, and whizzpoppers. The BFG is responsible for collecting and blowing dreams into children’s heads while they sleep. Sophie is taken on a tour of his cave where the dreams are stored, and eventually joins the BFG on an expedition to collect and capture dreams. Finally, Sophie and the BFG concoct an ingeniously hilarious plan to enlist the Queen of England to get rid of the nasty child-eating giants once and for all.



What to Watch Out For...

An opening scene (“The Snatch”) can be frightening for some readers: a sleeping Sophie is taken from her bed by the BFG and whisked off to Giant Country. Dahl sets the scene he calls ‘the witching hour’ with the giant peering into Sophie’s bedroom in the moonlight. (He grabs her because she is the first person to actually see him on his nightly dream-blowing journeys.)

The other giants are truly, comically, horrible. They are loud and coarse, rude and ugly, with terrible names like the Bloodbottler and the Fleshlumpeater. In addition to fighting amongst themselves, they actually trundle off each night to grab and eat children straight from their beds. Of course, none of this is depicted on page. Only Roald Dahl can turn something this macabre into a playful children’s adventure.