

# junie b. jones®

## Turkeys We Have Loved and Eaten (and Other Thankful Stuff)



Grades 1-4

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### Pre-Reading Activities

In the story, Mr. Scary assigns a Thanksgiving-themed show-and-tell. Each student must bring in one item that they are thankful for to share with the class. Unfortunately, things don't go quite according to plan in Room Nine, and the show-and-tell turns out to be a bit of a disaster. Why not prove that your class is more capable? Assign this show-and-tell the night before you plan to read *Junie B. Jones: Turkeys We Have Loved and Eaten (and Other Thankful Stuff)*. Before reading, have each student present to the class an item they are thankful for. After all the students have shared, lead the class through a brief analysis of the items they class brought in. Are there any patterns or trends among the class?

Room One is getting ready for its Thanksgiving feast. And whichever class comes up with the best Thankful List will win a pumpkin pie! Only being thankful for the right stuff is harder than it looks. Plus there are so many things that Junie B. is *not* thankful for. Does Room One stand a chance in a Thankful Contest?

In this guide to *Junie B. Jones: Turkeys We Have Loved and Eaten (and Other Thankful Stuff)*, students will prepare for reading by simulating one of Room One's actual classroom activities from the story: a Thanksgiving-themed show-and-tell! After reading, students will engage in a small group reading-comprehension activity, in which they will be asked to recall key details from the text. Finally, students will have the opportunity to express their gratitude to someone they are thankful for in a writing activity.

### Who Is Thankful for What?

After reading, make a list of all the students in Room One who brought food to the feast. First, challenge students to remember all the names from memory, then encourage them to look back in the text to make sure none of Junie B.'s classmates were forgotten. In small groups, instruct students to recall the item that each Room One student brought in for Thanksgiving show-and-tell. Make sure one student in each group records the answers for the group on a piece of loose-leaf paper. Review the answers as a whole class and see which groups were able to recall all the items correctly. You might even consider offering a prize to the team who correctly recalls the most items.

### Give Thanks!

The students of Room One are lucky to have so many loved ones who are able to join their Thanksgiving celebration. This is a great opportunity for students to think about the people they are grateful for. As a writing prompt, have students write a letter to a person they are grateful for and explain one reason they are thankful for him or her. Be sure to remind students of proper structure and format for letter writing before beginning. Encourage students to deliver the letters, either in person or through the mail.

