

EDUCATORS' GUIDE

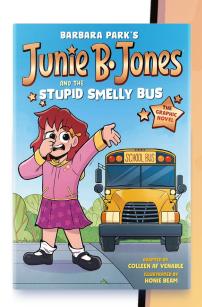
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ABOUT THE BOOK

After more than thirty years as a beloved favorite, the world's funniest kindergartner is coming to graphic novels, with brand-new full-color adaptations that will bring to Junie B. to life for a new generation of readers and give kids even more ways to laugh—and read—with Junie B. Jones!

Meet the Teacher day? Check! Fun new classroom? Check! Shiny new first-day-of-school shoes? Check! Meet Junie B. Jones! The B stands for Beatrice. Except she doesn't like Beatrice. She just likes B and that's all. Junie B. is almost six. Almost six is when you go to kindergarten. And TODAY is Junie B.'s first day of school! Only guess what? Junie B. does NOT want to ride the school bus home. It smells on the bus. Plus also, what if there are meanies on the bus who might pour chocolate milk on your head?! In fact, what if Junie B.'s so scared of the bus that when it's time to go home . . . she doesn't?!



ABOUT THE CREATORS



BARBARA PARK (1947–2013) is beloved by millions as the author of the wildly popular Junie B. Jones series. She left a legacy of laughter and reading.



COLLEEN AF (Ann Felicity) VENABLE is the author of many kids' books, including the Katie the Catsitter series. Colleen discovered Junie B. as a young babysitter and says, "I instantly fell in love. I don't think any character in literature connects with me as much!"



HONIE BEAM (pronounced honey) is making her graphic novel debut with Junie B. Jones. Honie grew up reading Junie B. and is excited to be on the team! When she's not illustrating, Honie can be found playing the mandolin and doodling dragons on important tax documents.

ABOUT THIS GUIDE

This guide includes ideas for building background knowledge and discussion questions for before, during, and after reading. It also includes reproducible worksheets for suggested activities, including:

A VENN DIAGRAM

If students are reading the graphic novel after reading the traditional chapter book Junie B. Jones and the Stupid Smelly Bus, use the Venn diagram to compare how the story is different in different mediums. Keep track of what's similar and what's different as you read.

INTRODUCE YOURSELF

Familiarize students with graphic novel features. Give students the opportunity to make themselves into a graphic novel character while sharing "get to know you" information. This can be completed after Junie B. Jones is introduced to readers. This can also be completed at the beginning of the school year, or any time a new student is welcomed to class.

BIG FEARS

Have students create an inventory of what worries them about school, riding the bus, or anything else! Talk about a few of these together as a class so students know they're not alone in their feelings and so they can see that the worst-case scenario is usually unlikely, and not the worst!

SCHOOL TOUR MAP

Have students create a map of their school. When there is a new student or a visitor to the school, you can provide a copy of one of the school maps. You can share the maps with other classes in the school or post them in public areas around the school so younger students and visitors know where to go if they get lost.

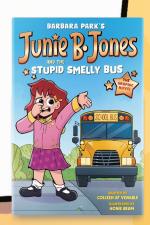
BUILD BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE

Tell students that you are about to read a graphic novel adaptation. Fill in gaps in understanding, explaining that graphic novels tell a story through panels, which are read from left to right. You might consider using an overhead projector to:

- ♦ model sequential reading
- ♦ point out graphic novel features
- ♦ read aloud together

Consider creating a word wall with images to keep graphic novel features and their meanings top of mind for students. Include:

- ♦ panels
- ♦ speech bubbles
- thought bubbles



BEFORE READING

- ♦ Ask students: Do you remember your first day of school? What was it like? How did you feel before it? Have your feelings about school changed?
- ♦ There are good things about school and some challenging things about school. What's the best part of the school day? What's the hardest part of the school day? Let students know that it's okay not to have fun all the time, but that they should tell an adult if they feel unsafe.
- ◆ Talk about new things students would like to try. What does it feel like to try something new? How can trying something new bring up big feelings?

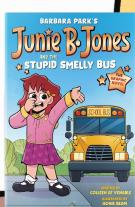
WHILE READING

- ◆ Junie B. Jones has a preference for how her name is said. Why is it important to say someone's name the way they'd like for it to be said?
- ♦ How is Junie B. feeling after Meet the Teacher Day? How do you know?
- Why does Junie dislike the bus?

- ◆ Junie B. refers to lots of people as "meanies." Why? Do you agree with her?
- What places does Junie B. visit on her school tour? Does your school have these places? If not, where do you go in your school for books, or for help if you're hurt?
- Why does Junie B. stay in her classroom?
- ♦ Why are the adults grouchy with Junie B.?
- What does Junie B. plan to do differently?
- ◆ Junie B. changes her mind about a few things during the story. Why does she change her mind? Have you ever changed your mind?

AFTER READING

- What should you do if you are feeling uncertain or nervous about something?
- ♦ What would you have suggested Junie B. Jones do instead of hiding in the classroom?
- What was your favorite part of the book? This could be anything!



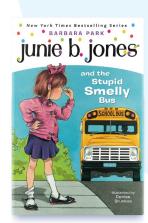
SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES

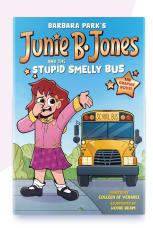


Now that you have read the chapter book and the graphic novel, what is different about the ways these stories are told? What is similar about the ways the stories are told? Complete the Venn diagram below to identify similarities and differences.

junie b. jones





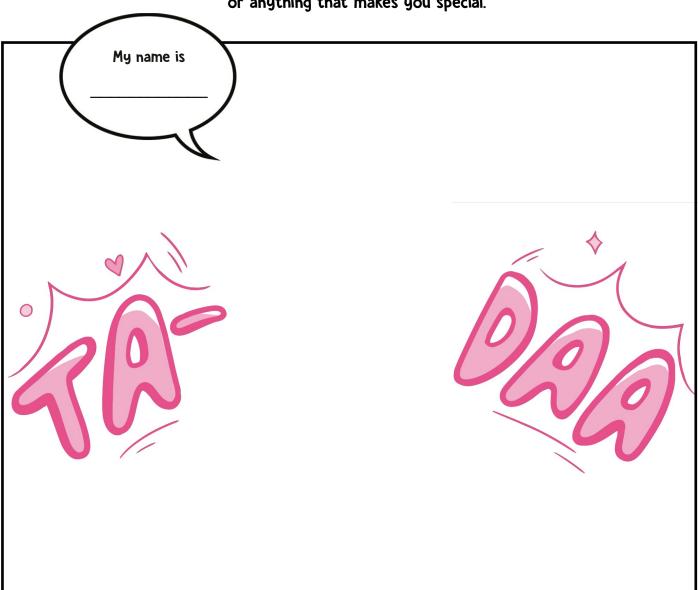


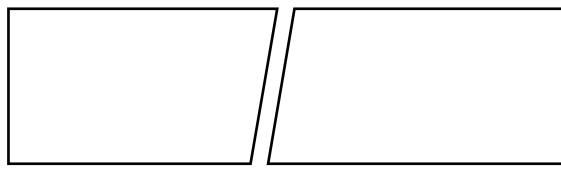


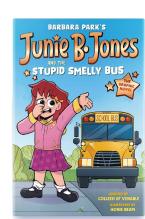
INTRODUCE YOURSELF



After writing your name in the speech bubble, draw yourself, adding facial features, hair, clothing, etc. Then, in the panels, share a few important things about yourself that you'd like people to know, such as your middle name, your favorite color, or anything that makes you special.















BIG FEARS



Art © 2025 Honie Beam, from Barbara Park's Junie B. Jones graphic novels. JUNIE B. JONES is a trademark of Park Investment Holdings LLC, used under license.

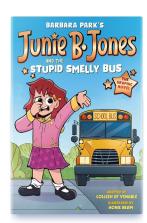
Junie B. is having some big feelings about riding the bus, but she is not aloneeveryone has fears! What are some of your fears? Complete the chart below.

Your fear	Worst possible outcome	Best possible outcome	What would a friend say to put you at ease?















SCHOOL TOUR



Junie B. Jones takes a walking tour of her school. Give a tour of your school by drawing the library/media center, the cafeteria, your classroom, the nurse's office, the restrooms, the gym, etc. Be sure to label each location.

My School











