



About Pete The Cat and His Four Groovy Buttons

Eric Litwin

Regardless of your age, you will think Pete the Cat is totally cool. After you've completed the First and Second Readings, it will be easy to see why this book is a Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor Book. Mr. Litwin's use of rhythm, repetition, and special type to emphasize particular words will remind you of the text features in *Steam Train, Dream Train*. Before you begin reading, you'll want to check the following sites to make sure you know the tune to Pete's song: <http://harpercollinschildrens.com/feature/petethecat/audio/Pete-the-Cat-and-His-Four-Groovy-Buttons.mp3>. When you visit these websites you will find many creative ways to extend your time with Pete the Cat through numerous post-reading activities. It's easy to see why there are 265 Customer Reviews on www.amazon.com that give the book a five star rating.

Pete's favorite shirt loses its groovy buttons one at a time. Through bold and humorous illustrations we see the plot unfold with two types of pages. We see how cool Pete stays in this troublesome situation and how a mathematician would show the math concepts, including equations. Bringing math into early childhood literature is part of a major effort to get kids ready for school. Please check out *Press Here: About This Book* where we state, "Both the National Association for the Education of Young Children and the National Council of the Teachers of Mathematics are reaching out to educators and parents to build a foundation of math thinking through age-appropriate experiences."

You'll find Pete's philosophy on staying cool: "*Did Pete cry? Goodness, no. Buttons come and buttons go.*" useful in real-life stressful situations.

The Reading Comprehension Best Practice that works well with this book is **Summarizing**. After you complete the Third Reading, you'll want to spend time having your child **summarize** Pete the Cat's philosophy on never sweating the small stuff. You'll also want to spend time **summarizing** the math information as your child goes back to explain all that is in the math illustrations.

A new book out in the *Pete the Cat* series is: *Pete the Cat: Too Cool for School: My First I Can Read*.