

The Sneetches by Dr. Seuss

The Sneetches was published in 1961.

Dr. Seuss sometimes invents words. Sometimes he changes words so that they rhyme.

Fun Poetic Meter - In *The Sneetches*, Dr. Seuss uses what's called anapestic tetrameter. An anapest is a poetic foot that contains two unstressed syllables followed by a stressed syllable; it sounds like: dah-dah-DUM. Tetrameter just means that there are four anapests per line. The strong syllable ending allows for forceful rhymes—great for children learning to read poetry who always want to emphasize the rhyme.

Introduce yourself and tell us if you are familiar with Dr. Seuss. What other Dr. Seuss books have you read?

Discussion questions:

Do you relate to the story in a personal way?

Do you relate to the story from an historical perspective?

The setting of the story is a beach, but we don't know where the beach is and there are no details about the beach. Why do you think the author made this choice?

What do you think about the illustrations?

What are the main ideas of the story?

Think about the times you've bought something because it promised to fix one of your problems. Did the problem go away?

How do companies get us to buy the things we do, and why do these tactics work on us?

What message might a child get from the story?

