

# Monsters Don't Eat Broccoli

by Barbara Jean Hicks

A hilarious book about monsters who'd rather snack on tractors, a rocket ship or tender trailer tidbits than



## Read

### Before:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow that with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, *Who can tell me what broccoli looks like?* Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an "I wonder" statement based on the cover illustration.

- I wonder if the monsters really think this broccoli is a tree?

### During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions, and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end. Point out "rare words" (e.g., those words that are not commonly used in every day conversation) and help the children relate the meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

### Rare Words in *Monsters Don't Eat Broccoli*

- broccoli: edible green flower heads from the cabbage family
- clue: something that helps to solve a mystery or crime
- waitress: a woman employed to bring food or drink to people in a restaurant
- tractor: a motor vehicle used for pulling heavy loads especially on farms
- rocket ship: a spaceship powered by rocket engines
- artichokes: a large flower bud with parts that can be eaten after cooking
- alfalfa sprouts: a plant of the pea family
- redwoods: the tallest trees in the world
- boulders: a large round rock
- construction: the building of something

### After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- Broccoli is a healthy vegetable. Do you like broccoli?
- What other vegetables do you like?
- Instead of broccoli, what are some of the other things that monsters snack on?
- Do monsters like broccoli? Artichokes? Lima Beans?
- Monsters love redwoods. What are redwoods? Are they big or small?
- Fum, foe, fie, fee... where have you heard this before?
- Monsters love a picnic. Have you ever had a picnic?

**Do**

## Vegetable Dip

Make a vegetable dip and bring several types of vegetables for the children to snack on.