

About the Book

In this fractured fairy tale mash-up, Bid Bad Wolf struggles to understand whether he has the capacity for change, and in the process discovers friendship among those he once thought of only as tasty snacks.

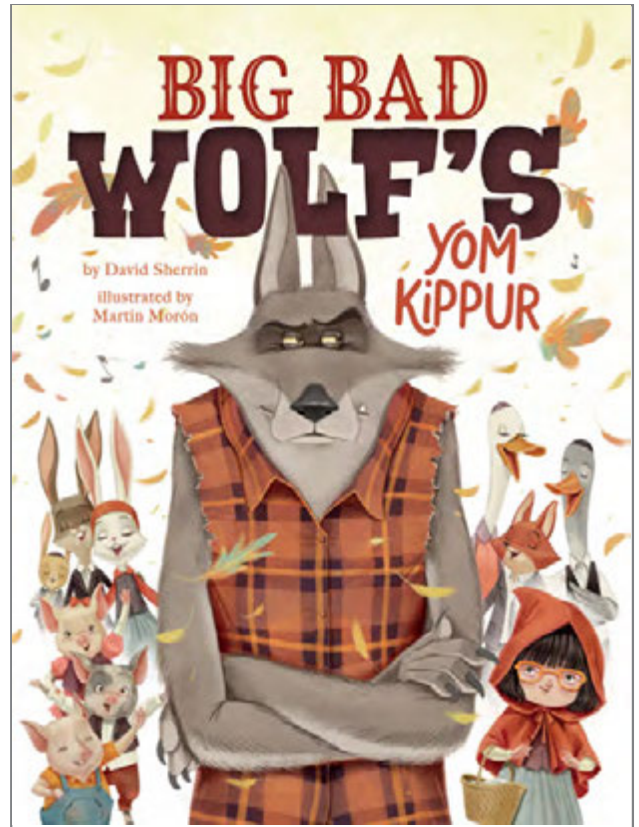
Wolf wondered: Could he become better and brighter?

It is a regular morning, and Big Bad Wolf is just getting ready for another day full of bad, when something very different happens. Raccoon knocks on his door to apologize for rummaging through his garbage and invites him to synagogue services. What first appears to Wolf as an opportunity for a giant lunch buffet becomes, instead, an opportunity for Wolf to experience a change of heart.

Warmly welcomed by the rabbi, who claims anyone can become better and brighter just like the leaves in the forest as they change color in the fall, Wolf, wrapped in a peaceful moment, begins to wonder if he could do the same. He spends the day helping Little Red Riding Hood take care of her sick grandmother (even though he'd rather eat them both) and showing the three little pigs how to make their houses stronger.

Despite the new feelings these kindnesses give him, deep down he doesn't believe a wolf can change, because he keeps making mistakes. But as the day ends, his new friends arrive with a feast to break their Yom Kippur fast and they want to share it with their helper, partner and friend, a Big GOOD Wolf.

Yom Kippur is a fall holiday that marks the end of a time when Jewish people reflect on where they made mistakes. They use this time to apologize and think of how to be better in the future.



Key Themes:

helping other people; friendship; recognizing mistakes, apologizing; striving to be our best selves; holiday customs of Yom Kippur

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Ages 6–8 years



Use these questions to preface and conclude a reading of this book with children. Encourage them to share their observations as you read the book together, and take time to linger on pages or spreads that generate more discussion.

Before Reading

- What do you know about Yom Kippur?
- What characters look familiar on the cover? What stories do they remind you of?
- What do the body language and facial expressions of the characters on the cover tell you about what the book might be about?

After Reading

- If you had a “day of bad” what would it look like? Alternatively, what would a “day of good” look like?
- Why do you think all of Wolf’s neighbors are nervous to see him at the synagogue?
- Wolf seems to think there are many things he shouldn’t do, such as hugging, singing, and changing his behavior. Why does he think that? Are there things that you do enjoy, but feel you shouldn’t enjoy? What are those things and why do you think you shouldn’t enjoy them?
- Big Bad Wolf thinks about bad deeds, like stealing Little Red Riding Hood’s apple cake or attacking the Three Little Pigs. What does he do instead? Why?
- If someone thought you were not a nice person, what types of things could you say or do to show them that you are nice?

Optional: Extension Activity

There were many nice things that Wolf did for his neighbors. Here are a few things that you could do for others to help them. Can you think of other ideas? Pick one of these to try.

- Make a meal or a snack for someone who is sick or busy.
- Clean someone’s room or house for them.
- Make someone a card telling them why you appreciate them.
- Call/Facetime someone to wish them a good day!

Find character cut-outs and coloring pages online!



Big Bad Wolf's Yom Kippur

By David Sherrin | Illustrated by Martin Morón

Character Cut Outs





