

Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Last Straw by **Jeff Kinney**

Jeff Kinney's laugh-a-minute Diary of a Wimpy Kid series is perfect for sharing with a group, engaging even the most reluctant readers.

Quick questions to share with your group

- Does Greg have a good relationship with his family?
- Is Greg a popular kid? How would you describe him?
- Did you find the book funny? Why? What did you think was the funniest moment in the book?
- Is Greg a 'wimpy kid'?
- Who is in control? Greg, his dad or Rodrick?

The Heffley Chat Show

Ask for volunteers in your group to play each member of the Heffley family. Playing the chat show host yourself introduce the show, explaining that you have the Heffley family as guests, and get the rest of the group to ask them questions about their relationships with each other. This format works well as a speaking and listening exercise and gets the group thinking about characters. It's lots of fun too!

Create a comic

One of the most unique aspects of this book are Jeff Kinney's comic strip style illustrations. Ask the group to produce a comic strip but persuade them to choose a real life situation as the subject – Jeff believes that real life situations are much funnier than anything you can make up! Collate all the comic strips into a group comic when you've finished. This makes a lovely group project and will help them to feel proud about their work.



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Too cool for school

Group members should think up a list of school rules that would make their school life as perfect as could be.

Wimpy kid on film

Diary of a Wimpy Kid is about to be released on film in America. Split your group into smaller groups and ask them to each choose a scene for them to rehearse and act out. If you have a video camera why not film the scenes, and discuss with the group how they think the book translates to film.

