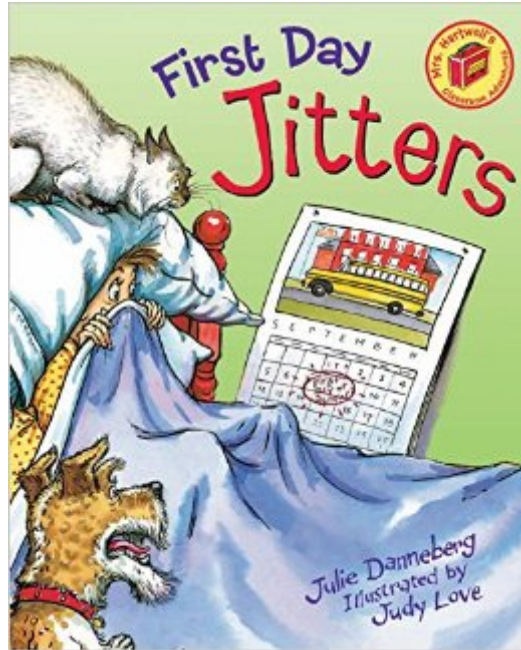


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# First Day Jitters (Mrs. Hartwells Classroom Adventures)



## Synopsis

Everyone knows that sinking feeling in the pit of the stomach just before diving into a new situation. Sarah Jane Hartwell is scared and doesn't want to start over at a new school. She doesn't know anybody, and nobody knows her. It will be awful. She just knows it. With much prodding from Mr. Hartwell, Sarah Jane reluctantly pulls herself together and goes to school. She is quickly befriended by Mrs. Burton, who helps smooth her jittery transition. This charming and familiar story will delight readers with its surprise ending. Fun, energetic illustrations brighten page after page with the busy antics surrounding Sarah Jane. *FIRST DAY JITTERS* is an enchanting story that is sure to be treasured by anyone who has ever anticipated a first day of school.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD210L (What's this?)

Series: Mrs. Hartwells classroom adventures

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Charlesbridge; 2/14/00 edition (February 1, 2000)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 158089061X

ISBN-13: 978-1580890618

Product Dimensions: 8 x 0.2 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.9 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (272 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #2,420 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #1 in [Books > Children's Books >](#)

[Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > First Day of School](#) #20

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Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

## Customer Reviews

As a brand-new teacher (first grade), I thought this would be a great icebreaker and nerve-soother to read to my kids on the first day of school. None of them expected the surprise ending. The book helped both my criers and the rest of the class -- I talked to the criers about jitters, and how I had them, and how most everyone has them on the first day of school. I was able to use the book as an

example to those better-adjusted kids, explaining that some people have worse first-day jitters than others. It was a great book to ease the kids into school again!

I recently read this book at a teacher training class that I attended. This book really helped to put me at ease for the first day of school, as I am sure it will for children of all ages. Who doesn't get first day jitters? Children do (even if they say they don't), but why not read this book to show them that teachers get jitters too? This is a very funny story with a surprise ending. A must for every parent and teacher of young children!

As this delightful picture book shows, first day jitters aren't just for kindergarteners. The first day in a new school has Sarah Jane Hartwell ducking for the covers. Mr. Hartwell tries to ease her nerves with calm reassurance and wise advice. But Sarah Jane is convinced that staying home in bed is the answer to her general fears about a new school: she doesn't know anyone, no one will like her, it's just too hard and besides, she hates school. Kids will identify with Sarah Jane's free-floating school anxiety, even if this isn't their first year in a new school. Love's richly-colored ink and watercolor illustrations help build anticipation for the surprise ending to Danneberg's story, a twist that will delight kids and give them a new perspective on the first day of school. Perfect late August reading for everyone heading back to school.

Well, this is a superb book for children on the first day of school. The story tells about Sara Hartwell and how she does not want to go to school. She is worried that no one will like her and is extremely nervous about all the things people get nervous about on the first day of school. Mr. Hartwell with much fighting gets Sara to school as the principal is waiting on her to take her to class. When he shows her to the room you find out that Sara is really the teacher! It definitely a new perspective! This is a great way to start a discussion with students about how adults also get nervous and scared and share how they deal with those feelings. I use this book as a great story starter and have my first grade students write about what they have ever been nervous about and have them share and learn from each other's stories. Excellent job Julie Danneberg and Judith Dufour Love!

How would you manage a whole new class every year? In First Day Jitters, by Julie Dannenberg it happens. It's about a person who doesn't want to go to school. She wonders "Will they like me?" You find out. I liked this because it was a surprising book. I also liked it because it wasn't obvious what the surprise was. You know its not only kids that are scared. Find out the surprising ending,

you never know what you might discover.

Julie Danneberg's "First Day Jitters" ought to be mandatory reading for all preschoolers and kindergarteners before they go off to school the first day. Sarah Jane Hartwell is snuggled down tightly under her covers, not wanting to go to her new school, while Mr. Hartwell urges and cajoles her into moving along. Mr. Hartwell drives her to school, where the principal, Mrs. Burton, kindly meets Sarah Jane at the car and personally escorts her into the classroom. And on the last page is a wonderful surprise that is guaranteed to put a smile on the face of any young child who's concerned about that all-important first day! Judy Love's vivid ink and watercolor drawings have a great sense of movement and are pleasingly colorful. She does an especially fine job of hinting at the surprise to come on the last page without giving it away via the illustrations.

Not a huge fan. The illustrations aren't super kid friendly, and the story is pretty unrealistic. The teacher isn't there ahead of the students on the first day??? And this doesn't bother the principal? And the teacher doesn't want to go to school because she doesn't like the school she just got hired at? I regret buying this one for sure.

I bought this book for my daughter about a month before she started Kindergarten. She was a little nervous starting something new, but this book made her laugh and understand that everyone else would be nervous the first day of school. Another great book for starting Kindergarten is Miss Bindergarten Gets Ready for Kindergarten (Miss Bindergarten Books). In the book, the morning is hectic and Sarah Jane Hartwell is quite hesitant to begin her first day at a new school. She has excuses for not going, believes no one will like her, states she hates her new school and she really liked her old school. The art wonderful details Sarah Jane's vision how she believes her new class will be (disruptive and unruly) compared with Mr. Hartwell's vision of a calm class full of potential friends. This book is wonderful for starting Kindergarten or a new school. The ending made me laugh and cry at the same time. My daughter finished Kindergarten and is getting ready for the first grade, but she still asks me to read this book about once a week and we laugh as hard as we did the first time we read the book.

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