

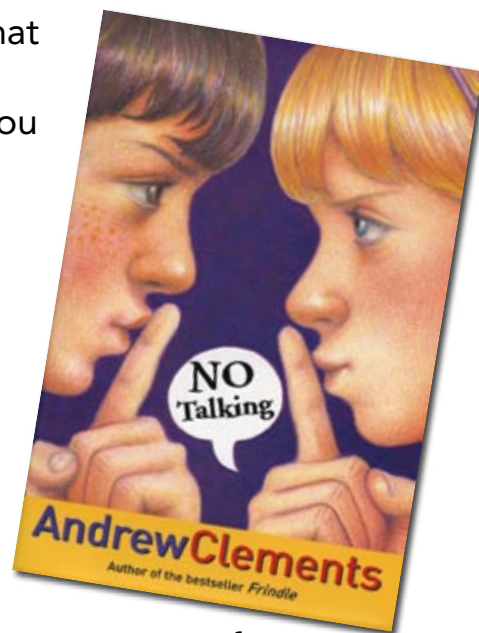
Booktalk!

No Talking

Written by Andrew Clements

Booktalk!

Shush! The fifth graders at Laketon Elementary **never** stop talking. They have been this way since kindergarten. Not only do they constantly chatter and interrupt each other, but the boys and girls *DO NOT GET ALONG*. Dave, a certifiable loudmouth, has an idea one day about not talking. He had read about a world leader who used silence to great effect. During lunch hour, he challenges another non-stop talker, Lynsey, to keep quiet. This challenge becomes a contest between the fifth grade boys and girls to speak only when spoken to (by teachers and parents) with three-word answers. So, in math class, they say, "I made estimates" or "the numbers worked" when asked how a math problem is solved. All the teachers begin to realize what is going on, as well as stiff Mrs. Hiatt, the principal. Only cool Mr. Burton, in social studies, doesn't have a problem with what is happening. What happens during the two days of the experiment is both surprising and hilarious. I challenge you to try what the fifth graders accomplish in *No Talking*.



Appropriate for
grades 3 - 4