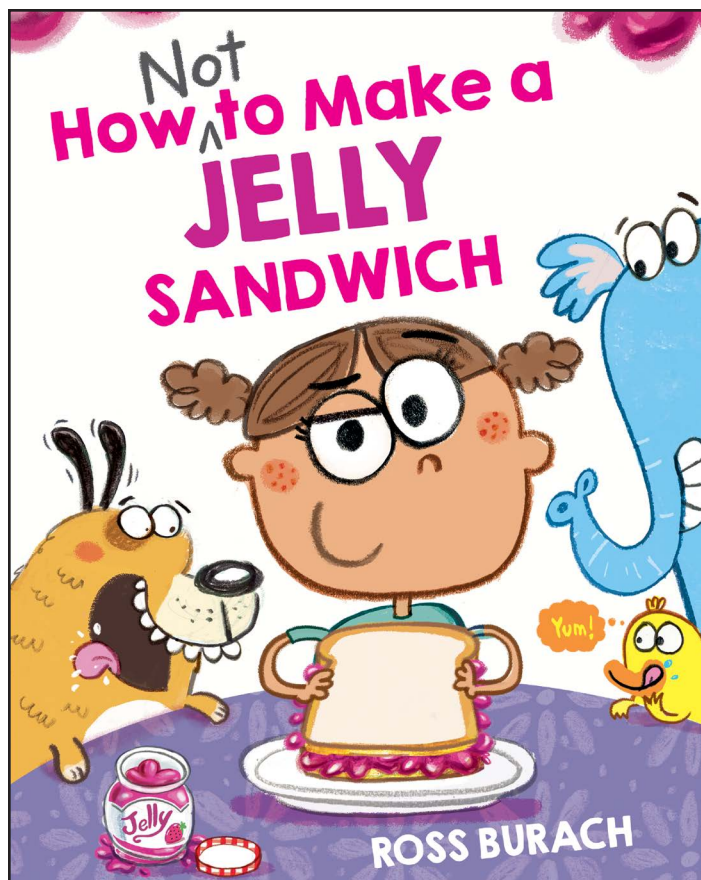
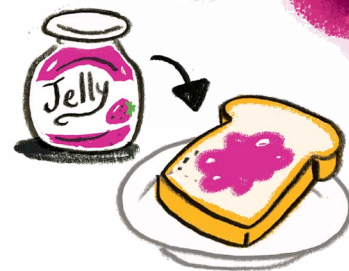




Not How to Make a JELLY SANDWICH



HC: 9781338877090 • \$19.99

Also available as an ebook

Ages 4–8 • Grades P–3

Available April 2026

About the Book

Prepare for outrageous fun and shenanigans in this madcap comedy from the creator of the beloved *Very Impatient Caterpillar* series.

Why be simple when you can be silly?

Frankie has her own way of doing things—the FUN way!

In her world, the ordinary becomes more enjoyable with a little original thinking. If you want to make a delicious jelly sandwich, for example, just follow Frankie's five simple steps:

1. Disguise yourself as a duck
2. Spin with an elephant
3. Bathe a dog
4. Organize a joust
5. Train a hamster

Taking inspiration from the classic elementary school assignment, writing a “how to,” this playful, twisty adventure, filled with ingenious ideas, is an unbridled celebration of imagination and creativity.

About the Author

Ross Burach is the creator of the riotously funny *Very Impatient Caterpillar* series that includes *The Very Impatient Caterpillar*; *The Little Butterfly That Could*; *Goodnight, Butterfly*; and *Make Way for Butterfly*. All the books combine humor with curriculum-friendly science topics and relatable social-emotional themes. Ross's other acclaimed books include the picture book *Truck Full of Ducks*, the board books *I Love My Tutu Too!*, *Potty All-Star*, *Hi-Five Farm!*, and *Hi-Five Animals!*, named the best board book of the year by *Parents Magazine*, and the Acorn early reader series *Bumble and Bee*. He also illustrated Audrey Perrott's *Moo Hoo* and *Baa Haa*. Ross lives with his family in Brooklyn, New York. You can visit him online at rossburach.com.



Photo © Joshua Keay

Find more storytime resources for this book at bit.ly/JellySandwichStorytimeToolkit!



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Not How to Make a JELLY SANDWICH



Use the tips and activities included in this toolkit to support a group reading and discussion of *How NOT to Make a Jelly Sandwich* by Ross Burach!

Read-aloud Tips

Before You Read

Take time to look closely at the cover and ask children what they notice. What do they think the book will be about? Do they think the book will be silly or serious? Who do they think is the main character? What is it about the art that makes them think that? What questions do they have about the book based on what they see? Then, open the book to look closely at the endpapers, then the title page. What do they notice about these parts of the book? What new information do these offer, or what new questions do they raise?

As You Read

After reading the text on each page or spread, pause to look closely at the page(s) as a group and invite children to share what they notice. Encourage them to connect those observations to previous pages or what they think will happen next. Invite them to share questions based on what they've seen so far. Be open to "out of the box" observations and questions, and leave space for children to briefly discuss them as a group before turning to the next page.

Discussion Questions

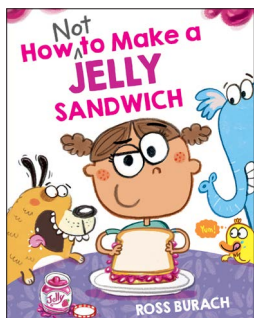
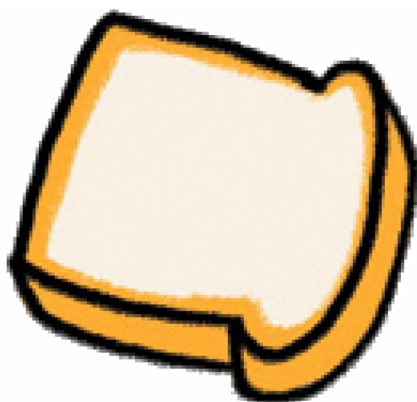
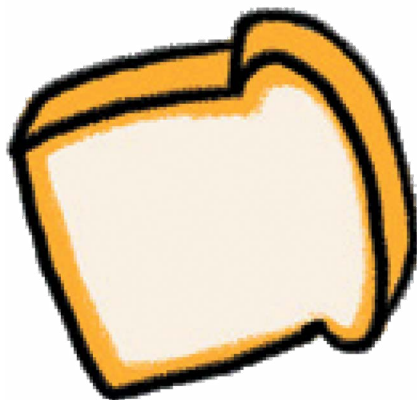
1. What do you think this book is about? What do you notice about the text and art on the cover?
2. What about the illustrations tells you that this will be a silly book?
3. What do you think about the difference between the recipe steps and the way Frankie follows them?
4. What did you expect Frankie to buy at the grocery store? What do you think about the way she actually gets the bread?
5. Do you think that the facts and tips in Frankie's notebook are helpful?
6. How many steps do you think it takes to organize a joust? What do you think those steps are?
7. How do you like your sandwiches to be cut?
8. What other types of sandwiches might you want Frankie to make? How might the steps to make those sandwiches be the same or different?
9. On the back cover, Frankie has brainstormed a list of other "how NOT to . . ." ideas. What other "how NOT tos" would you like to see on that list?
10. The back jacket flap has a section called "How NOT to Write an Author Bio." What would you say (or NOT say) if you used those instructions to write a bio for yourself?



Some prompts in this toolkit draw inspiration from the Whole Book Approach, an interactive storytime model created by Megan Dowd Lambert in association with the Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art. Learn more in *Reading Picture Books with Children: How to Shake Up Storytime and Get Kids Talking about What They See* by Megan Dowd Lambert (Charlesbridge).

Build a Sandwich!

You are a chef and can use anything (it doesn't have to be food) to make any sandwich you want!
Use the space below to build your dream sandwich.



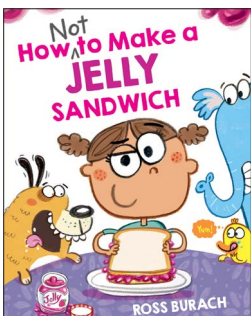
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Find more storytime resources for this book at bit.ly/JellySandwichStorytimeToolkit!

How NOT to...

Now it's your turn. Take inspiration from Frankie and write a list of steps for how to brush your teeth the FUN way!

Step 1



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