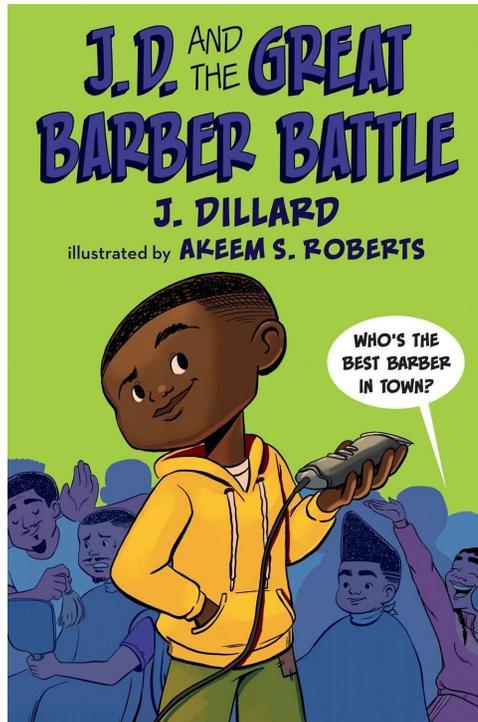


Family Fun Pack

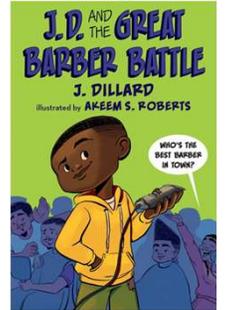


*J.D. and the Great Barber
Battle*
by J. Dillard



Read-Aloud Tips For Families

J.D. and the Great Barber Battle by J. Dillard



- ✓ **Make reading time a priority** – Sit down as a family and decide on a daily reading time, and then consider it an appointment that needs to be kept. Some families might find that right before bed is the best time, but early risers might enjoy reading at breakfast. For younger listeners, bath time can be great! Build it into your daily routine and soon you will find that everyone is ready and waiting to hear what comes next in the story.
- ✓ **Show emotion that matches the story** – All of the books from **Read to Them** capture a range of emotions over the course of the story. When reading aloud, mirroring the emotions felt by the characters will make the story more meaningful to your listener.
- ✓ **Vary your rhythm** – Have fun with the language in your book. During suspenseful sections, *slow down* and let the suspense build. During a particularly meaningful moment, *pause* and let the impact settle. During emotion-packed scenes, drop your voice to a *whisper*. When you are reading aloud, you are performing the story. Authors don't want their stories performed in monotone!
- ✓ **Don't be afraid to be silly** – Accents, funny voices, and sound effects are all great tools to use to make reading aloud more engaging. Character-specific voices or mannerisms also help listeners follow the dialogue. It might be a challenge, but it's worth the effort to make your story come alive.
- ✓ **Stay engaged with your listener throughout your reading time** – Stop from time to time to explain an unfamiliar vocabulary word, discuss an important point, or ask your child to make a prediction. You don't want to derail the story too much, but you do want to make reading together interactive.
- ✓ **Expect some fidgeting** – Listening during reading time does not have to be a stationary activity. Some listeners will sit still as stones with eyes and ears fixed on you, and that's great. But other listeners stay more engaged with something in their hands like a small toy, some crayons, or a stuffed animal. Some children might listen better if allowed to walk around the room, or even bounce on the bed a bit. Work together to find the way that works best for your child.

B

Use the [Connection Guide](#) to contact the publisher and let them know you're reading *J.D.*!

Discuss your favorite scene.

Have a (fun) family competition. Establish the rules and write them out ahead of time.

Do one thing that will make someone in your family happy.

Build a reading fort or tent together!
bit.ly/readfort

I

Have a family video-game night. Let everyone pick a favorite game to play.

Make a big Sunday meal together. What are your family's favorites?

Go bowling together!

Go shopping as a family and see what you can buy for \$3.

Do you know someone who goes to a barbershop? Ask to tag along and see if it's like Hart & Son.

N

Try some different hairstyles together. Pick one from the book, or come up with your own.

Watch the "Thriller" video and perform it together as a family!



Call or FaceTime a family loved one and read them your favorite chapter.

Go to a buffet restaurant together. Or make a buffet of your own!

G

Have a family football game.

Find a quote that's worth sharing and put it on a poster, banner, or t-shirt.

Play charades! Reenact a scene from the book without using words.

Try out one of the activities in the [Family Fun Packet](#).

Write a book review of *J.D. and the Great Barber Battle* for your teacher or school librarian.

O

Make bookmarks together!

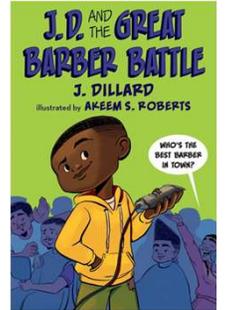
Try drawing one of the Marvel comic book characters.

Ask an older family member about a TV show they watched as a kid. Then, watch it together!

Make a list of new words you discover while reading together and learn their definitions.

Share a picture of your family reading with [@readtothem](#).





Family Fun Cards

Pages 1-66

J.D. and the Great Barber Battle by J. Dillard

What do you know?

What two things does J.D. always keep in his backpack?
Why does he keep them there?

What are the three haircuts a guy can get at Hart & Son?
What is the “*only happy memory*” J.D. has from his first two weeks of 3rd grade?

What do you think?

Whenever J.D. asks for new things, his mom responds by saying, “*What else do you need besides a bed and a mirror?*” (p. 48) Do you agree with her? What things are important to have and what things can we do without?

What can you do?

Thrifty Shopping Can Be Thrilling!

Early on in *J.D. and the Great Barber Battle*, we learn that J.D. gets a lot of his clothes from his aunt and uncle in North Carolina, who have kids older than him. He gets the used clothes when the weather changes, which means J.D. feels like he is “*always out of style.*” (p. 23) But does this have to be the case?

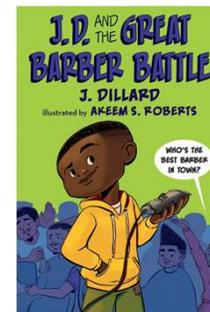
More and more, people are learning to shop for things that have been gently used but are still in perfectly good shape – and not already out of style! Your family might enjoy going to a thrift store together. See if each person can find something they were planning on buying new. What a great way to reuse and recycle, while also spending time together!



Family Fun Cards

Pages 67-126

J.D. and the Great Barber Battle by J. Dillard



What do you know?

Why does everyone in Meridian owe J.D.'s grandma a favor?

Why does J.D. wish he'd spent less of his money "*making the barbershop fun and cool?*" (p. 94)

According to J.D., whenever something new comes to the town of Meridian, who goes?

What do you think?

"We sat in a tent in his backyard. It was the best place for thinking." (p. 77) J.D. has a lot on his mind. He turns to Jordan to help him. Do you have a certain person you turn to when you need help thinking through a problem? Do you have a special place you like to go?

What can you do?

"I will be like you! A working man!" (p. 120)

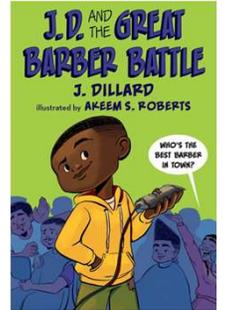
In J.D.'s family, being innovative is important. Everyone in his household is smart, hard-working and creative when it comes to finding work they are good at, and that also gives them financial rewards.

Can your family come up with a fun business to try together? It doesn't have to be complicated or long-term...it could be a weekend garage sale or lemonade and cookie stand. Maybe you start a dog-walking business or bake cakes. Get together and see what your family enjoys doing and try your hand at making it pay off, even if just for a day!



Family Fun Cards Answer Key

J.D. and the Great Barber Battle by J. Dillard



Pages 1-66

What two things does J.D. always keep in his backpack? Why does he keep them there?

he keeps: colored pencils and paper so he can draw whenever he feels like it

What are the three haircuts a guy can get at Hart & Son?

a baldie, a Caesar, a fade

What is the “only happy memory” J.D. has from his first two weeks of 3rd grade?

seeing Ms. Scott every morning in Reading class

Pages 67-126

Why does everyone in Meridian owe J.D.’s grandma a favor?

because she’s been giving art classes for so long

Why does J.D. wish he’d spent less of his money “making the barbershop fun and cool?” (p. 94)

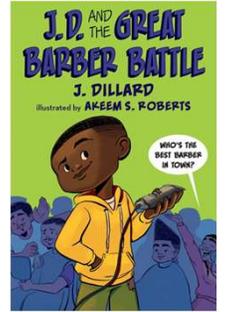
because now he can’t afford new clippers

According to J.D., whenever something new comes to the town of Meridian, who goes?

everyone! (black, white, rich, poor)



J.D. and the Great Barber Battle by J. Dillard



Connection Guide

Connect with Read to Them

Hashtags: [#ReadtoThem](#), [#1School1Book](#) or [#1District1Book](#)

Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, & Pinterest: [@readtothem](#)

Email: programs@readtothem.org

Website: www.readtothem.org

Connect with author J. Dillard

Are you enjoying reading about J.D. and all his wonderful antics? Tell the author!

Instagram & Twitter: [@IamJDillard](#)

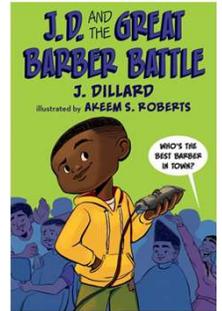
Connect with the publisher, Kokila

Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, & Pinterest: [@KokilaBooks](#)

Website: <http://www.penguin.com/publishers/kokila/>



J.D. and the Great Barber Battle by J. Dillard



Next Book Connections

If you loved *J.D.*, here are some other books your family might enjoy reading together...

Other books written by J. Dillard:

- *J.D. and the Family Business*
- *J.D. and the Hair Show Showdown*

Picture books with similar themes:

- *Lemonade in Winter* – Emily Jenkins
- *What Do You Do With an Idea?* – Kobi Yamada
- *Donut Chef* – Bob Staake
- *The Boy Who Invented the Popsicle: Cool Science Behind Frank Epperson's Famous Frozen Treat* – Anne Renaud
- *The Crayon Man: The True Story of the Invention of Crayola Crayons* – Natascha Biebow
- *Whoosh! Lonnie Johnson's Super-Soaking Stream of Inventions* – Chris Barton and John Tate
- *Crown: An Ode to the Fresh Cut* – Derrick Barnes
- *Hair Love* – Matthew A. Cherry
- *Princess Hair* – Sharee Miller
- *My Hair Is a Garden* – Cozbi Cabrera

Novels with similar themes:

- *Sparkle Spa series* – Jill Santopolo
- *Breaking the Piggy Bank* – Martha Maker
- *Carver Chronicles series* – Karen English
- *Eat Bugs series* – Laura D'Asaro
- *Billy Sure Kid Entrepreneur series* – Luke Sharpe
- *Cody Harmon, King of Pets* – Claudia Mills
- *Willis Wilbur Wows the World* – Lindsey Leavitt
- *Earn It, Save It, Spend It, and Dream Big with Danny Dollar, the King of Cha-ching* – Tyrone Allen Jackson
- *The Babysitter's Club: Kristy's Great Idea* – Raina Telgemeier
- *Lunch Money* – Andrew Clements
- *The Lemonade War* – Jacqueline Davies
- *Dirt Cheap* – Mark Hoffman
- *Money Tales series* – Sheila Bair
- *Craftily Ever After series* – Martha Maker
- *Bee Fearless: Dream Like a Kid* – Mikaila Ulmer