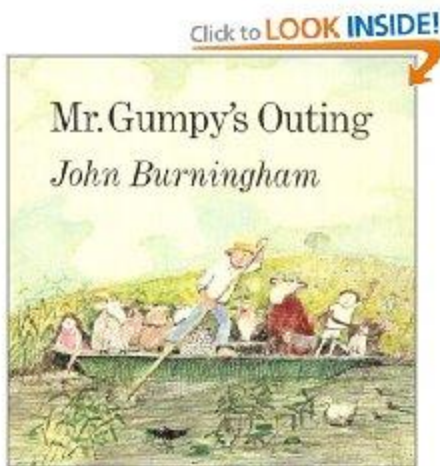


# Book Connection

## A book review with a tip to integrate faith



"Mr. Gumpy's Outing," by John Burningham, is a great story to show God's Law AND Gospel. Mr. Gumpy is going on a boat ride on the river. Children and animals ask to join him. As each enters the boat, he gives them a rule to follow. Soon they all break the rules and end up in the river. Instead of chastising or punishing them, Mr. Gumpy invites them for tea and a beautifully illustrated table spread. Then he says "Come for a ride another day."

The rules Mr. Gumpy gives are like the 10 commandments God gave. Mr. Gumpy gave the rules so that everyone could be safe and enjoy the ride.

When they break the rules and end up in the water, Mr. Gumpy shows grace. He not only helps them out but invites them to a tea party. At the end, he invites them to try again another day.

This book could also be effectively used with older students (have them draw the analogies themselves) and even as a children's sermon.

--Julie Bedard



LEA Early Childhood Network

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