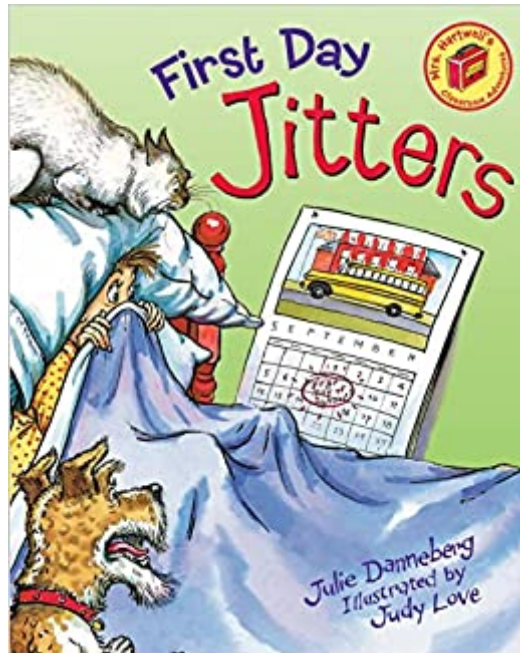




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# First Day Jitters (Mrs. Hartwells Classroom Adventures)



## 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 0.1 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 327 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #15 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #1 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > School](#) #1 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Emotions & Feelings](#) #1 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > New Experiences](#)

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

## Customer Reviews

Kindergarten-Grade 3-Sarah is hiding under her covers as Mr. Hartwell asks, "You don't want to miss the first day at your new school do you?" From under the blanket she replies, "I'm not going." When he reminds her how much she liked her other school and asks her to think of all the new friends she'll meet, she imagines a classroom where a paper airplane is flying, a boy is pulling his

neighbor's pigtail, and another is blowing a gigantic bubble. Mr. Hartwell finally gets Sarah to stumble out of bed, eat a bit of toast, and get into the car where she slumps down into her seat. At school, the principal cheerfully welcomes her and takes her to the classroom where she is introduced as "Mrs. Sarah Jane Hartwell," the new teacher. There is a bit of foreshadowing that Sarah is an adult, but as she is always partially hidden, the ending will come as a surprise to most readers. The ink-and-watercolor illustrations are full of action and maintain the lighthearted tone. A little subplot in the paintings shows the family cat and dog having their own contest of wills while their owner is trying to get his wife up and out. The joke provides a good laugh and children may find it reassuring that they are not alone in their anxieties about new situations. Adele Greenlee, Bethel College, St. Paul, MN Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Danneberg puts a fresh twist on an annual crisis suffered by millions: the arrival of that dread day in September when school starts. The alarm rings, but Sarah Jane Hartwell just burrows deeper into her covers, announcing that she's not going, wailing "I don't know anybody, and it will be hard, and . . . I just hate it, that's all." Finally, Mr. Hartwell firmly orders her down to breakfast, puts her in the car and drops her off to join the children flooding through the school doors. Love fills the sharply detailed illustrations with happy, individually distinct faces, vividly capturing the fateful mornings hubbub and, aside from a few hints for the sharp-eyed, artfully setting viewers up for the climactic revelation that Sarah Jane is not a student, but a teacher. Many children will be amazed at the idea that teachers get butterflies too, especially if they've been exposed to the hyper-efficient protagonist of Joseph Slates *Miss Bindergarten Gets Ready For Kindergarten* (1996). (Picture book. 6-8) -- Copyright ©2000, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This book is a good one to read on the first day of school to help calm the jitters of being in school. I think it helped to calm my kiddos down.

Love this book! It is one of the best books to read on the first day of school. I was not happy about the packaging. The cover is damaged due to the other items in the box. I would have given a 5 star.

Perfect gift for teachers and student teachers, especially when paired with *Last Day Blues*.

I am looking forward to read this story on the first day of school.

Good book, cute illustrations; surprise ending.

I love this book for the first day of school. I always fix jitter juice to go along with this story ( Green cool aid and sprite mixed together). Calms the jitters and students love it. Makes the first day of school.

Love this book! It's a book I've been reading to my class on the first day of school every year for 16 years. I needed a new copy:)

I highly recommend this book if you are a teacher and want to help your students have a great first day of school. It really helped to calm them down and enjoy the day :)

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