

Clifford's Family

Written and Illustrated by Norman Bridwell

Dear Family Member,

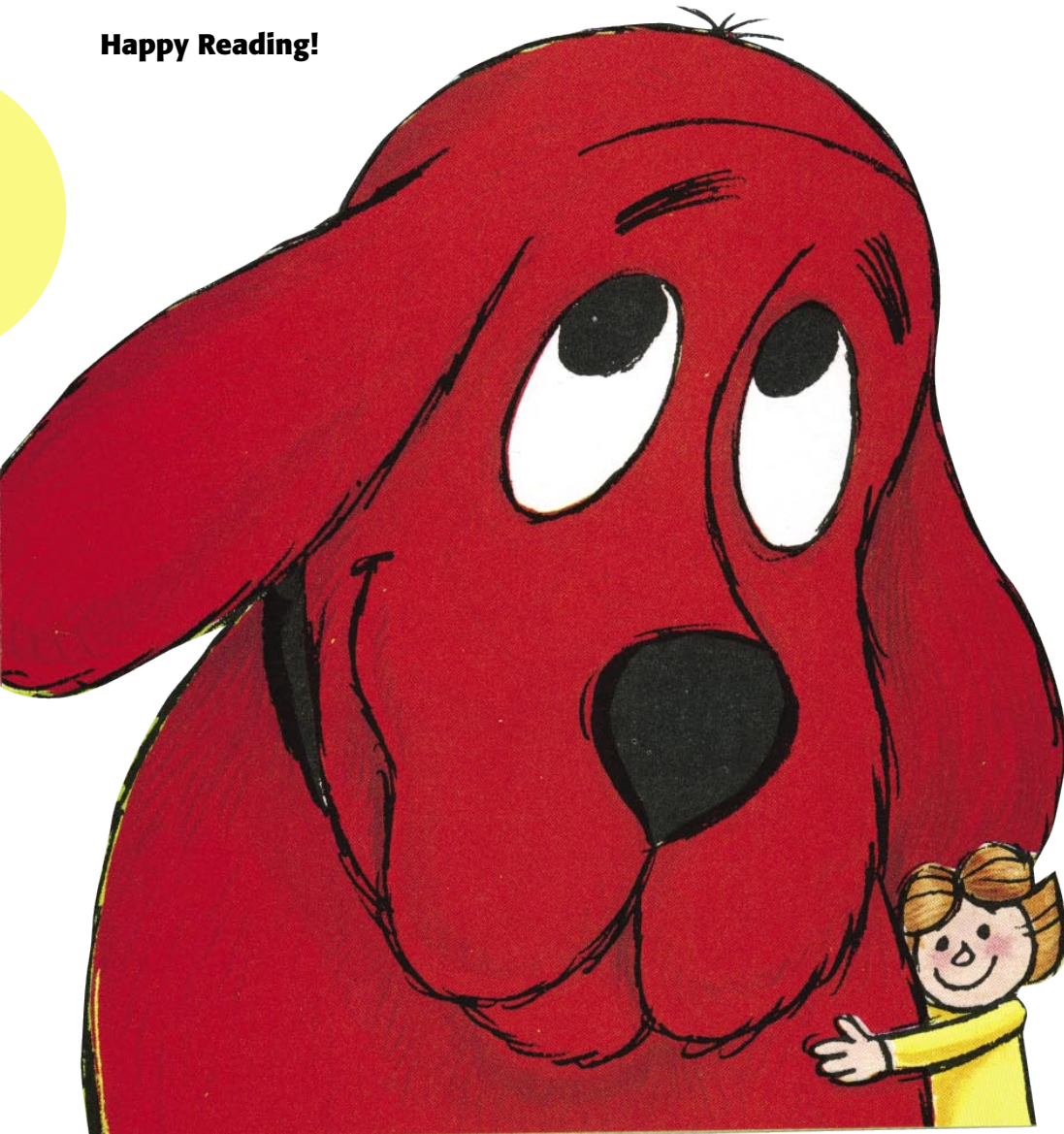
You've probably discovered that there are certain books that amuse your child. One such book is sure to be *Clifford's Family* by Norman Birdwell.

Before you read, look at the cover and note how big Clifford is compared to other dogs. On the next pages, you meet Clifford's family. Read each name. Have your child point to the picture. Then go back to the cover to identify each one.

As you read, help your child notice the faces of the people as they meet Clifford and the other humorous details in the pictures. Enjoy Clifford as he finds all sorts of ways to help others. Discuss the jobs his family members do.

After you read, talk about your own family and list the ways you help each other. If your family has moved recently, or others live away from you, this is a good time to talk about how you and your child feel. Sharing feelings with your child can be a rewarding, learning experience.

Happy Reading!

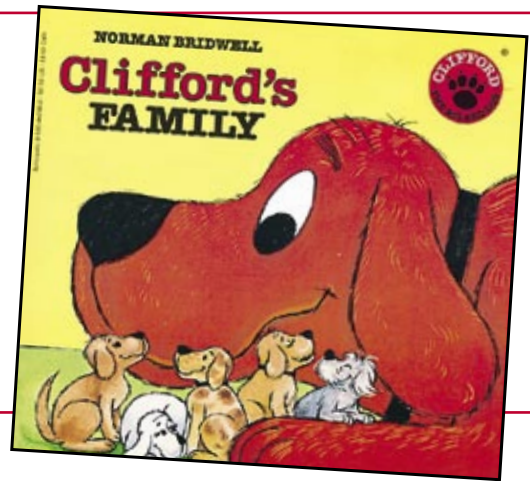


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BOOK SUMMARY

Clifford the Big Red Dog has moved to the country. But he misses his family in the city, so he goes back to visit them. He finds them all very busy helping others. Clifford shows how helpful he can be, too!



Talking Together

Remind your child that Clifford was certainly a BIG red dog! Have your child think about what it would be like if Clifford were small—small enough to fit in a pocket. Ask your child, “What kinds of jobs could he do?” Your child might also enjoy imagining the other animals in different sizes. Ask, “What could a giant bird or a tiny pet cat do?” Have your child think of good deeds these animals could perform. Encourage your child to draw pictures of any or all of these animals.

Clifford's Family shows some of the helpful things Clifford could do because he was so big. With your child, think about your own neighborhood. Have your child list some of the jobs Clifford could do, such as wash the windows of a tall building or get a kite out of a tree. Have your child draw pictures of these ideas.

Doing Things Together

With your child, make a family album such as Clifford had in the front of the book. Under each photograph or drawing, help your child write the name of a relative and where he or she lives. You might want to add what his or her job is and how each one helps other people.

Help your child make a list of five or six jobs she or he can do to help family members and friends. Suggest that your child surprise someone by doing one of these helpful deeds.

Reading More Together

Here are other books by Norman Bridwell: *Clifford, the Big Red Dog*; *Clifford, the Small Red Puppy*; *Clifford's Birthday Party*; *Clifford's Good Deeds*; *Clifford's Puppy Days*; and *Clifford Takes a Trip*.