

This book is out of control!

by Richard Byrne

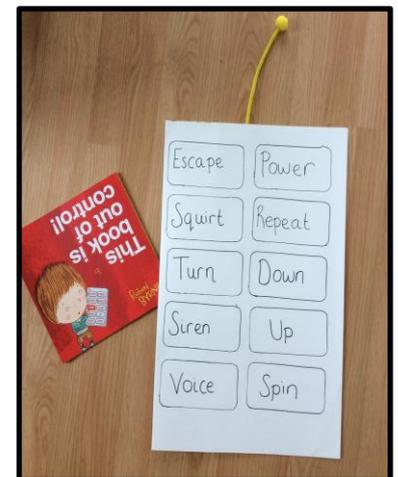
Suggested Activity:

These children are out of control!

Materials Required :

- A large, white, rectangular piece of cardboard/cardstock/poster board
- White paper or wrapping paper
- A black Sharpie or marker pen
- Glue or tape
- A pipe cleaner and a pompom

Prepare for your storytime session in advance by creating your very own remote control. Start by taking your piece of white cardstock. Using a marker pen, draw 10 even sized button shapes. In each 'button' write one of the following words: *Escape, power, squirt, repeat, turn, down, siren, up, voice, spin*. The next step is to take your pipe cleaner and glue or tape one of the ends in place so that it is jutting out of the top centre of the cardboard (to make the antenna). Take your pom pom and poke the opposite side of the pipe cleaner into it, so that the pompom sits on its very tip. Now you have your remote control!



After reading the story, ask the children to stand up and spread out around the room. Show them your remote control and explain that it is the same as the one in the book, with one important difference; this one has the power to control *them*! You will then press the 'buttons' on the remote control in a random order (shouting out the word as you do it) and the children have to do the corresponding action.

Before you begin, explain to the children what each of the buttons mean :

Escape - *run to the nearest door*

Power - *fall to the ground and 'sleep'*

Squirt - *if it is hot weather and your budget allows it, provide each child with a small water pistol. Upon hearing the instruction 'squirt!' they can squirt each other with water. If this is not possible then you could choose to change that button for something else, such as 'Danse' or 'Jumping Jacks,' or 'Hop'*

Repeat - *repeat the previous action*

Turn - *Rotate 90 degrees to face a new direction*

Down - *crouch down*

Siren - *sing "nee nah nee-nah nee-nah!" and pretend to drive (as if in an emergency vehicle*

Up - *jump as high as possible*

Voice - *sing something in a dramatic singing voice*

Spin - *spin around fast*

If you shout *'these children are out of control!'* they must do a CRAZY danse!

Later on in the game you could choose another children to come to the front and have charge of the remote control. You could also choose to only point the remote control at one children at a time, therefore only that children would need to follow the instruction.

Enjoy!