



The Crocodile and the Dentist

Taro Gomi

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When Crocodile visits the dentist, both are fearful of the experience, in a humorous, colorfully illustrated story in which everyone ends up intact and regular dental care is encouraged.

The Crocodile and the Dentist Details

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Author : Taro Gomi

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From Reader Review **The Crocodile and the Dentist** for online ebook

sarah diehl says

#kidlitexchange #partner

DUN DUN DUN... a visit to **THE DENTIST** is new and scary for kids, so naturally it's the subject of many books for kids. Gomi's witty take on the subject is a scenario in which neither patient nor doctor is pleased.

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Crocodile doesn't really want to see Dentist... Dentist doesn't really want see Crocodile. Each sentiment uttered by Crocodile is repeated verbatim by Dentist.

The repetition is accompanied by Gomi's classic illustrations (perhaps you recognize them from *Everyone Poops* !?!). The illustrations are deceptively simple and age appropriate - but the color palate is too dark and bland. Regardless, a crocodile at the dentist office will have kids laughing!

...

The dental hygiene moral is useful for parents or teachers reading to their kids: The book ends with the ubiquitous reminder to brush one's teeth. A sign for the dental office (pictured on the copyright page and back of the dust jacket) has a rotten tooth on it, as a visual reminder to take care ?!

...

Personal favorite: The rich blue endpapers that are covered in vibrant pink toothbrushes! ??? Suitable for ages 3-8.

...

Thanks Kid Lit Exchange for a review copy of this book - all opinions are my own.

Becky says

First sentence: I really don't want to...but I have to.

Premise/plot: There are two sides to every story. Crocodile is **TERRIFIED** of the dentist. The dentist is **TERRIFIED** of Crocodile. Both are approaching this appointment with a definite "I REALLY DON'T WANT TO....BUT I HAVE TO." In fact, the dialogue is mirrored throughout the book. Will Crocodile and Dentist survive the dreaded dental visit?

This was originally published in Japan in 1984. This English translation is copyrighted 2018. I believe it has been translated into many different languages.

My thoughts: I **LOVED, LOVED, LOVED** this one. It was very funny. I loved both points of view. I think many, many readers--of all ages--can relate to this one.

Text: 5 out of 5

Illustrations: 4 out of 5

Total: 9 out of 10

Ana Paula Gonzalez Toledo says

esta hermoso es la teoría de la me te para niños

KC says

Going to the dentist can be difficult for many!

Lindsay says

I LOVE Taro Gomi! Cocodrilo Va al Dentista is about a crocodile who doesn't want to go to the dentist and a dentist who doesn't really want to treat the crocodile for a cavity. Both the crocodile and dentist are scared and speak from their own perspectives, repeating almost exactly what the other is thinking. It's a fun read and makes the dentist seem less scary. I used this for a dental care-themed program for both Spanish and bilingual story times, but it could also be used to teach children about the importance of talking about their feelings/expressing themselves.

Jennifer says

Hilarious!

Stephanie Bange says

Huzzah! Another Gomi book translated to English for the American market. First published in Japan in 1984, American children finally have the opportunity to enjoy this humorous visit to the dentist.

Crocodile is in pain from a toothache, so he goes to the dentist (though he is afraid of him). The dentist works on him (though he is afraid of him). Each decides to be brave and steels himself. When the dentist hits a nerve, the crocodile chomps on the dentist's arm (both respond "Ouch!"). They part, each saying "see you next year" but thinking "I don't want to see him again!"

Gomi's text is brilliant -- simple and clear. What one thing/says is repeated by the other. Smart readers will use their voice to differentiate between the two -- using inflection to add understanding. (This would make a superb reader's theater script or a beginning reader. Gomi's color palette on this one is bright, brilliant jewel tones -- purple, red, teal, cobalt blue -- and pop from the white background on each page.

A real treasure to hand to s the kiddos afraid of going to the dentist.

Recommended for ages 3-7.

Ina says

With big, bold illustrations this imaginative story presents the notion that maybe the patient isn't the only one who is afraid in the dentist's office. Of course, this patient is a crocodile and everything that scares or causes pain for the patient also scares or causes pain for the dentist. Great illustration of perspective taking in the words of the Mind in the Making program. Great read for a young patient anxious about visiting the dentist - with over-the-top humor it will relax any fears.

Barbara says

Although many folks worry about going to the dentist, it just might be that the dentist has fears of his own. In this humorous picture book, readers see both sides of the story as a crocodile needs some dental work, which he dreads. But the dentist also dreads having to work on this particular patient for his own reasons. And when readers see all those pearly whites of the reptile, they can understand why. I loved how both characters say the same thing on different page and how the book ends with a firm reminder about how not to have to see this dentist again. One thing is for sure: This is one crocodile who will certainly make time to brush his teeth and floss in the future. The illustrations feature expressive eyes and facial expressions, all of which made me smile. Youngsters will love this book and want to read it repeatedly or hear it read more often than once. The original version of the book was published in 1984, and reading it now proves how much staying power the story has.

Sarah says

Translated from the 1984 Japanese picture book. The two characters exactly (except in the last sentence where “my” becomes “your”) repeat each others sentences. In essence the illustrations tell the stories and the words tell the emotions and thoughts of the characters. 100% dialogue.
Fun picture book to read and reread.

Laura says

@kidlitexchange #partner – all opinions are my own.

A fun portrayal of Crocodile's trip to the dentist, from both the crocodile's and the dentist's point of view! Each is dreading the appointment, for the same reasons, since they are equally afraid of one another. Readers will be able to relate to the feelings of both characters and will laugh out loud at the moment when they both get hurt. A great choice for discussing point of view, kindness, and positive self-talk. Taro Gomi's sparse text and full illustrations add up to a brilliant story!

Danielle says

Taro Gomi = genius.

Miss Kelly says

The repetition here is awesome.

Beverly says

What is so funny is that both the crocodile and the dentist are saying exactly the same thing, as the crocodile is afraid of the dentist and the procedures, and the dentist is afraid of the crocodile and performing the procedures.

Ruth Ann says

The crocodile is afraid of the dentist.

The dentist is afraid of the crocodile.

The morale of this picture book is to brush your teeth.

The dentist approaches the crocodile with a drill and pliers while the crocodile is walking into the examine room!

The croc cowers behind a tree. I would run for the hills.

Once he's in the chair, he says "I'm ready for the worst! OUCH!"

You've got to be kidding.

Disappointing to say the least.
