

Superfudge

By Judy Blume

Grades 4-6

Written by Nat Reed
Illustrated by S&S Learning Materials

About the author:

Nat Reed is a retired teacher living in Southern Ontario, Canada. He has written a number of magazine articles and short stories, as well as the children's novel *Thunderbird Gold* (Journey Forth Books).

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Synopsis

Superfudge is the sequel to *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing*, another classic children's story by Judy Blume. Even though the title of the novel is *Superfudge*, the main character is Peter, Fudge's twelve-year-old brother. As the novel begins Peter finds his life completely turned upside down. First, he discovers that his mother is going to have a baby – which turns out to be a sister, Tootsie; then his parents decide to move from New York City to Princeton, where his father plans to write a book. Uprooted from his home and friends, Peter reluctantly accepts all of the changes, leaving behind his friend, Jimmy Fargo, and his old nemesis, Sheila Tubman.

Added to the mix is the constant shenanigans of Fudge, and Fudge's own difficult adjustment to these changes. In Princeton Peter meets Alex, and the two become good friends, but Peter's life is further complicated when he discovers that his precocious younger brother, Fudge, will be attending the same school as he is. Yet through all of these trials Peter gains a sense of responsibility for both his younger brother, Fudge, and his baby sister, Tootsie, and we see him maturing as the novel unfolds.

Superfudge is a fast-paced, amusing story that should keep its young audience enthralled throughout.

Author Biography

Judy Blume, was born Judy Sussman, on February 12, 1938, in Elizabeth, New Jersey. She has written many popular novels for young readers as well as three bestsellers for adults. She started writing while living in the New Jersey communities of Scotch Plains and Plainfield. More than 80 million copies of her books have been sold, and her work has been translated into 31 languages. She is also the editor of *Places I Never Meant To Be: Original Stories by Censored Writers*. Blume's novels for elementary schoolers were among the first to tackle such controversial matters as racism (*Iggie's House*), divorce (*It's Not the End of the World*), and bullying (*Blubber*).

Judy received a B.S. in education from New York University in 1961. During her writing career she has also accumulated a number of prestigious awards. These awards include the American Library Association's Margaret A. Edwards Award for Lifetime Achievement, and the National Book Foundation's Medal for Distinguished Contribution to American Letters in 2004.

Judy is currently writing a series of four books for young readers, illustrated by New Yorker cartoonist James Stevenson. The first, *Soupy Saturdays with the Pain & The Great One*, was published in September, 2007. The second, *Cool Zone with the Pain & The Great One*, was released in May, 2008. Judy and her husband George Cooper live on islands up and down the east coast. They have three grown children and one grandchild.



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Before you read:

Chapter 1: Guess What, Peter?

Having a new addition to the family can be an upsetting event. Why might a new baby not be welcomed by the other children in the family?

What are two possible benefits to having a new baby in the family?



Vocabulary

vanilla	announced	faucet	recite
dessert	liver	tousle	biscuit
pregnant	definitely	cabinet	invented

Choose a word from the list to complete each sentence.

1. That woman was _____ the best baseball player in town.
2. My older sister tried to _____ my hair.
3. A woman is usually _____ for nine months before giving birth.
4. My great uncle _____ the world's first pinball machine.
5. The bank president _____ an increase in the bank rate.
6. He always keeps his car keys in the _____ in the living room.



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7. Please turn off the hot water _____.
8. The St. Bernard dog had only a _____ for dinner.
9. For _____ we has raspberry pie.
10. The chef added a dash of _____ to his recipe.
11. My best friend, Charlie, will _____ "The Road Not Taken" at the school assembly.
12. The _____ is an important body organ.

Questions ???

1. What exciting news did Peter's mother tell him at the beginning of the chapter? Describe how Peter took the news.

2. How had Fudge influenced Peter's response to this news? Do you think this was fair to Fudge?

3. a) What plan must Peter have had when he emptied his two dresser drawers into his Adidas bag?
