

This was NOT written by me and I do not know where it originated from, but is a first day favorite for many teachers and my students. They love hearing this story, giggling at that silly monster, and then drawing pictures of what he could do instead to make a better choice.

Enjoy!

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The Monster Who Came to School

When Andy got on the bus on the first day of school, he saw a monster! Andy was very surprised. He did not know that monsters were allowed to go to school. But there the monster was. It was making all kinds of noise and would not sit down. It climbed on the seats and put its head out the window. It took up so much room that Andy had no place to sit.

"Wow, that monster sure is noisy! I'll bet it isn't even supposed to be here," Andy whispered to Vicky.

But Andy's teacher was not at all surprised to see the monster enter the classroom. It pushed ahead of everyone, grabbed a box of toys, and dumped them on the floor. When Andy and the other children sat at their places, the monster started to throw the toys.

"Stop that!" said the teacher. "Even monsters are not allowed to throw toys."

The monster dropped the toys and started screaming. It screamed so loudly that no one could hear the teacher. "Be quiet!" the teacher finally said. The monster stopped screaming and the teacher said, "It's time to play outside."

Everyone stood up and walked to the door—everyone except the monster. It ran out the door without waiting for directions.

Outside the monster continued to behave like a monster. It pushed some children and took toys from others. It climbed up the slide the wrong way and sat at the top so no one else could slide down.

When the students returned to the classroom, the teacher tried to read them a story. But the monster shouted and laughed and no one could hear. Then it pulled the toys off the shelves again. It would just not listen!

At lunchtime, the monster grabbed other people's sandwiches. It dropped food in the floor on purpose and poured its milk on the table. Later, when it was time to paint, the monster ran around the room painting big, black lines on the other children's pictures! When the children formed a circle and tried to sing, the monster jumped around and stepped on their toes. It pounded on the piano until the teacher had to close it.

At rest time, the monster laughed and talked and poked the children and even pulled their hair. "Come here!" said the teacher, who was very angry. "You are a real monster! Monsters are not allowed at school. Go away and never come back!" And do you know what happened?

The monster burst into tears! Everyone was astonished. "I'm sorry!" cried the monster. "I've never been to school before. I didn't know it was against the rules to shout and run and push, or to grab and throw things. Please don't tell me I can't come back! I will try to learn if you all will help me."

The teacher asked the children what they thought. The children decided to make a list of rules. They would let the monster stay---if it followed the rules. The monster worked hard to learn how to behave, and soon it knew all the rules, just the way all the children did.

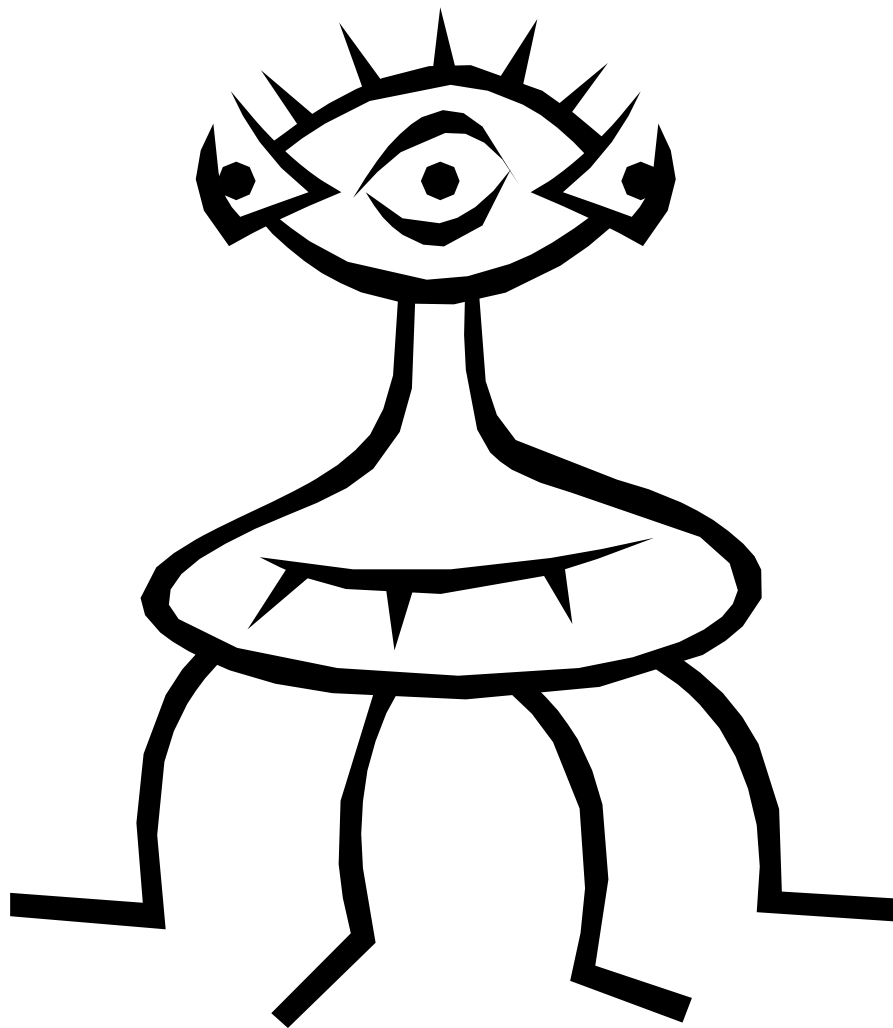
Name: _____

Date: _____



You Silly Monster!

Directions: Color the monster and draw a picture to show how he CAN follow classroom rules. Write the rule he is following at the bottom.



Four sets of horizontal writing lines, each consisting of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line.