

ENGLISH READERS EDELVIVES



COCO THE CAT

Hands Off my Cushion!

Gérard Moncombe
Frédéric Pillot



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Illustrations
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before reading

1 **Look** at the cover of the book and **answer** the questions

- What is the title of the story?

- *Hands off* means *Don't touch*. **Invent** a sentence with *Hands off* and something that is important to you.

Example: Hands off my sandwich!

- The cushion is very important to Coco. Can you describe it?

The cushion is _____

- Why does Coco like her cushion?

2 In the story somebody wants to take Coco's cushion. Who can it be? Mum? Dad? Who?

Draw how you imagine Coco's reaction.



- 3 What do you know about cats? **Circle** the correct answer. Then **read** the sentences to a friend.

Cats are reptiles/mammals.

Cats have hair all over their bodies/don't have hair all over their bodies.

Cats have four legs and a tail/don't have four legs and a tail.

Cats like to sleep a lot/don't like to sleep a lot.

Draw a cat sleeping on a cushion. The cat is saying, *Purrrrr! Purrrrr!*



- 4 **Complete** the dialogue between Coco and a family member with the missing sentences.

I'm calling you! I want to play with you!

Oh, Coco!, You always want to sleep! Good-bye!

Coco! Coco! Where are you?

Coco: I'm tired! I'm going to sleep a little on my comfortable cushion.

Family member: _____

Coco: Who is calling me?

Family member: _____

Coco: Play with me? NO!! I'm going to take a nap on my cushion!

Family member: _____

- 5 **Design** a cushion to decorate your bed. Does it have orange and grey stripes like Coco's cushion or is it different?



- 6 **Imagine** you are Coco and you want to describe your cushion to a family member. What would you say? **Write** in the speech bubble.

My cushion...



Chapter 1: Susan is nuts!

- 1 **Look** at the first pages of Chapter 1. Coco is taking a nap on her grey and orange cushion. She is happy because her cushion is warm and soft and *purrfect* (perfect) for naps. What is Coco dreaming about while she is sleeping?

Write a sentence.

- 2 In Chapter 1, Susan is angry because Coco's cushion smells very bad. What can Susan say? **Choose** one of the options or invent one. **Draw** the idea.

Susan: *Coco, your cushion stinks! It smells like...*

- a dirty, smelly pig!
- rubbish in the bin!
- children after a Physical Education class!
- a baby's dirty nappy!



- 3 Coco's cushion is *purrfect* for taking a nap. Why? Use the Word Bank to **write** the sentence.

Word Bank: dirty, cold, small, hard, ugly

Example: It is big. It isn't small.

It is soft. _____

It is beautiful. _____

It is warm. _____

It is clean. _____

- 4 The title of Chapter 1 is *Susan is nuts!* When Susan says that Coco's cushion smells bad and that she is going to wash it in the washing machine, Coco does not agree! Coco thinks that *Susan is nuts!*

Circle a different title for Chapter 1 which means the same. **Draw** a picture to represent it.

Susan is sad!

Susan is generous!

Susan is crazy!

Susan is scared!



- 5 In Chapter 1, Susan and Coco are fighting for the cushion. Susan wants to wash it and Coco says NO!

Write your ideas on the lines. When you finish, look at the story (p.4) and try to find the words. **Practise** the conversation with a friend!

Susan: Your cushion smells bad! It _____!

Coco: My cushion smells like a _____!

Susan: I'm going to _____ it!

Coco: NOT _____!

- 6 **Listen** to Chapter 1 on the CD while you read your book. Push *Pause* after every sentence. **Repeat** what you hear. Try to copy the pronunciation of the words exactly. Have fun!

Can you **repeat** this part of the sentence and sound like a cat?

And it's purrfect for naps!



Chapter 2: I need a nap

- 1 Coco is so tired. She is walking around the city. She is looking for a quiet place to take a nap. The first place she finds is next to a baby.

Read the sentences and **tick** true or false

	True	False
In the city there is a lot of noise: cars, buses, people, etc.		
Coco sees a baby girl and decides to take a nap with her.		
The baby cries because Coco wants to drink the baby's milk.		
The mother is scared when she sees Coco with her baby and screams.... Ah-h-h-h-h!		

- 2 Coco continues looking for a quiet place to take a nap. The second place she finds is in a flower bed. **Follow** the instructions and **draw** the flower bed:

The flower bed has many flowers. Coco is trying to sleep in the middle of all the flowers. There are three tall, red roses. There are five short, yellow roses. The flower bed has two pink flowers and one white one.



- 3 On pages 16 and 17, Coco is on the roof of a house. **Write** a description of the picture.

- 4 On pages 18 and 19, Coco is looking through the window of someone's house. She can see a very interesting, quiet living room with a comfortable sofa and a big soft cushion. It's a *purrfect* place for a nap! **Look** at your own living room and **describe** what you see. **Draw** a plan.



5 In the living room on pages 18-19 there is a telescope between the flowers and the lamp. **Answer** the questions.

- Who might live in this house?

- Why do you think is there a telescope there?



6 **Listen** to Chapter 2 on the CD while you read your book. Push *Pause* after every sentence. **Repeat** what you hear. Try to copy the pronunciation of the words exactly. Have fun!

Can you **repeat** this part of the sentence and sound like a cat?

Wait! Here's the purrfect place for a nap.

Chapter 3: A hairy dragon

- 1 In Chapter 3 Coco meets a monster! A hairy dragon! **Draw** a scary dragon and **label** the picture with the parts of his body.



Write a sentence to describe this hairy, scary dragon.

- 2 **Look** at the pictures on pages 24-25. **Read** the sentences and **tick** true or false

	True	False
An ugly, green dragon is chasing Coco through the house.		
The family dog is chasing Coco and things are falling over. The room is a mess!		
Coco is having fun playing with her new friend.		
Coco wants to escape as quickly as possible.		
There are lots of yellow and blue flowers falling out of the vase.		

3 **Read** the sentences and **put** them in the correct order.

- Coco hears a loud noise.
- Coco relaxes on the sofa and prepares to take a nap.
- Coco starts to run.
- Coco jumps off the sofa.
- The dragon chases Coco and she runs very fast to escape.

Now **write** the sentences in the correct order.

First, Coco relaxes on the sofa and prepares to take a nap.

Then _____

After that, _____

Next, _____

Finally, _____

4 **Look** at pages 26 and 27. **Write** *Dog* or *Coco* on the line next to who might say these sentences.

_____ I'm FURIOUS!! You can't come into my house and take a nap on MY sofa!

_____ That sofa was a nice place to take a nap, but that dragon destroyed everything!

_____ I think it's time for me to return to my house... Susan loves me!

_____ Susan, Mum and Dad are lucky to have a cat like me!

_____ The next time I will eat you!!!!

- 5 When Coco arrives home, Susan is waiting for her. **Match** Susan's and Coco's sentences. Then **act** out the conversation with a friend.

Susan

Oh Coco! I'm so happy to see you again!

Look at your basket! Can you see your cushion?

What's the problem, Coco?

You silly cat! Lavender soap smells fantastic!

I love you soooooo much you crazy cat!

Coco

Yes! I can see it! My cushion is in the basket!

I don't agree with you, Susan, but... no problem.

Oh Susan! I'm very happy to be home again!

The cushion STINKS!! It smells like lavender soap!

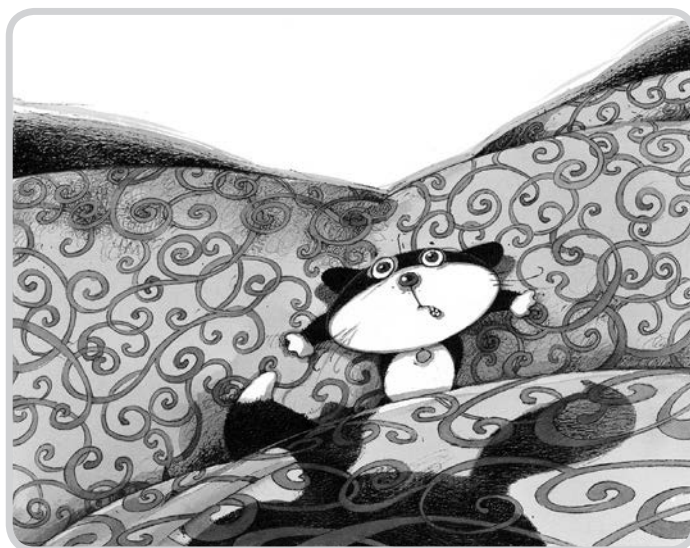
I love you soooo much Susan... AND I love my cushion!

- 6 **Listen** to Chapter 3 on the CD while you read your book. Push *Pause* after every sentence. **Repeat** what you hear. Try to copy the pronunciation of the words exactly. Have fun!

Can you **repeat** this part of the sentence and sound like a cat?

What's that noise? A monster's coming!

A hairy dragon is going to eat me!



after reading

- 7 During the story, Coco says “*Whiskers!*” when she is surprised. How many times does Coco say this in the story to tell us that she is surprised?

Coco says “*Whiskers!*” _____ times.

Write “*Whiskers!*” on the line where you might be surprised.

Teacher: You got a 10 in your Maths and Music exams!!

You: _____

Mother: Tomorrow is Wednesday.

You: _____

Grandmother: Here are 200 euros for your birthday!

You: _____

Father: I’m going to work tomorrow. It’s Monday.

You: _____

Brother: You can have all of my video games!

You: _____

Now **work** with a friend. One student reads sentences 1, 3 and 5 and the other student says, “*Whiskers!*”

(in a teacher’s voice)

You got a 10 in your Maths and Music exams!

(sounds surprised)

Whiskers!

- 8 During the story, Coco often says the word *purrfect*. People don’t say *purrfect*. We say *perfect*. Can you **explain** this? (Remember that when cats are happy they *purr*.)

1 **Imagine** that one month has passed. Susan wants to wash the cushion again because it stinks! **Write** a conversation. Then **read** it out loud with a friend.

Susan: Coco! Your cushion stinks!

Coco: My cushion smells like a cushion!

Susan: I'm going to wash it today. Give it to me!

Coco: _____

Susan: _____

Coco: _____

Susan: _____

Coco: _____

2 **Imagine** that you can have the pet of your dreams. **Answer** the questions about your pet.

- What pet would you like?

I would like _____

- What would the name be?

The name would be _____

- Where would your pet take a nap?

My pet would take a nap _____

after reading

- 1 **Draw** a picture of your imaginary pet taking a nap.



- 2 **Design** a “do not disturb” sign. Your pet might need it for that nap.

