

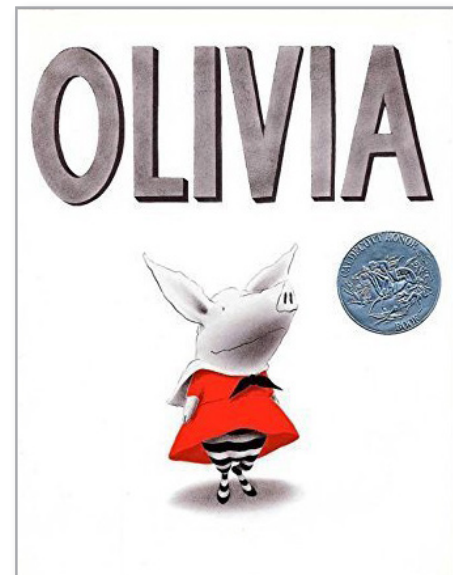


# Olivia

Written and Illustrated by Ian Falconer

## Before We Read: Introduce the Book

- Suggested scripted text for readers is indicated in italics with the lesson. Feel free to adapt as you wish.
- The **Now We Read** and **After We Read** sections include suggested instructions in brackets for readers.
  - *This is Ian Falconer's first children's book about Olivia. He later wrote several other books about this fun and lively little pig. How many of you have read books about Olivia?*
- Additional information for older students: Ian Falconer also makes sets for the New York City Ballet, the San Francisco Opera, and the Royal Opera House. (Sets are the buildings, trees, mountains and landscapes). He also designs costumes for performances.
  - *Olivia the pig is good at so many things. She sings and dances. She knows a lot about fashion and paintings. I wonder how she knows so much! We might find a clue in this story!*
  - *Think of some things you are good at—maybe sports, reading, being kind. Would you like to share some of them with us?*
  - *Think of other things you are going to learn to be good at next—things you hope you can do! We will have a chance to share later. Now we will see some of the many things Olivia can do!*



## Now We Read: Read the Book

- *Listen carefully and look for clues to help you guess what kinds of things help Olivia to learn and know SO much!*

## After We Read: Talk about the Book

- *Do you have any guesses about what helps Olivia learn so many things?*  
[If children are unsure, or unwilling to take a guess, take a picture walk and see what they can discover! (Hopefully some children notice that her mother reads to her every night!)]
- *Olivia just loves books! How many of you love books, too?*
- *Can you guess other things that help Olivia learn?* (going to the beach, the museum, trying on clothes, dancing, etc.)
- *What do you think her mother means when she says, “You really wear me out?”*
- *Look carefully at the pictures. How do you think Olivia feels about herself? Why?*

## Optional Activities

- Give children paper, and crayons or markers to draw things they are good at, things that make them feel good about themselves.
- On a second paper, if children wish, they might draw a favorite book, or place to go, or something they want to learn next!
- Some children may wish to share by acting out these ideas.