



# Something Big Has Been Here

By Jack Prelutsky

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A poetry collection to tickle your funny bone, *Something Big Has Been Here* features more than 100 original poems and black-and-white drawings from the best-selling team of Jack Prelutsky and James Stevenson. Here are four ferocious tigers, a meat loaf that defies an ax, five flying hot dogs-and many, many more people, animals, and things that are destined to become a part of the lives of everyone who loves to laugh.

Ages: 5 - 10

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## **Something Big Has Been Here** By Jack Prelutsky Bibliography

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## Editorial Review

### Amazon.com Review

In this delightful companion to Jack Prelutsky's *The New Kid on the Block*, an early worm frightens the early bird, four vain and ancient tortoises race to see who can get to the finish line last, and outrageous imaginary characters such as the "Know-Nothing Neebies" ("We're perfectly pompous, / indelibly dense, / we haven't a trace / of a semblance of sense") pop up as magically as any creature from *The Phantom Tollbooth* or *The Wizard of Oz* ever did.

In "Captain Conniption," young readers will giggle to meet the self-professed "scourge of the sea." "I'm Captain Conniption, / and up to no good, / you'll soon walk the plank / if I think that you should, / I'd show you right now / how I vanquish a foe, / but I hear my mother, / so I have to go." Other subjects near and dear to children's hearts make fabulous fodder for fun, including sibling rivalry, bad table manners, meatloaf, and bats. Illustrator James Stevenson's lively line drawings capture Prelutsky's goofy poetic antics perfectly, making this collection another essential addition to any child's library. (*Ages 4 to 12*)

### From Publishers Weekly

If this anthology of light verse and black-and-white drawings from Prelutsky and Stevenson were a movie, it would be titled *The New Kid on the Block Part II*. In format, subject matter and tone, fans of the earlier volumes will rejoice in finding more of the same. These are not poems to savor for their metaphoric language or depth of thought, but are instead frivolous, rib-tickling verses about the "Ghost Who's Lost His Boo," about "Rhododendra Rosenbloom" who buys perfume from a "ten scent store," or about the "Fearless Flying Hotdogs" who are "mustered in formation / to climb, to dip, to dive." Prelutsky's comic monologues focus on such topics as "I am Tired of Being Little" or "I'm Sorry! for being a brat," or the irresistible declaration of love, "Warteena Weere Just Bit My Ear." From Twickles and Moodles to the making of Grasshopper Gumbo, the emphasis is on the preposterous. Stevenson's waggish drawings provide half the fun in this comic collection that skips lightly on the mind and tongue. *Ages 5-up.*

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### From School Library Journal

From the intriguing title poem to the final verse, "We're Fearless Flying Hotdogs," Prelutsky has done it again with childwise sparkling wit. Zani-ness is in abundant supply with verses about a turkey that shot out of the oven (it was stuffed with unpopped popcorn); Denson Dumm, who planted lightbulbs in his hair (and thereafter was always bright); and the child who wants a pet porcupine. But also present in delightful numbers are serious subjects of importance to children, wrapped in silliness: "I Am Tired of Being Little," "Don't Yell at Me!," and "I Should Have Stayed in Bed Today." Prelutsky's language is neither simple nor sappy, but rich with challenging words such as "disputatious" and "alacrity," whose meanings are clear in context. The poems are short and snappy (many are only one or two stanzas), and Stevenson's accompanying uncomplicated and comical drawings give the book an uncluttered appeal. A winner for individual or group reading. --Lee Bock Pulaski, Brown County Pub. Libraries, Green Bay, WI

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