



BOOK TITLE: **The Story of Ferdinand**
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SUMMARY OF BOOK: This story, set in Spain, is about a bull named Ferdinand. He is unlike other bulls who like to butt heads and fight. Ferdinand prefers to sit in his special, quiet place and smell flowers. After being mistaken for a feisty and angry bull, Ferdinand is selected to fight in bullfights.

***BEFORE READING** (Ask questions and use what the child already knows to add to the discussion, assisting the child in understanding and enjoying the book):

Try questions such as these:

1. Look at the cover of the book together: "What can you tell me about what you see? What do you think this book might

be about? Why?"

2. "Who do you think Ferdinand is? Does he look like any animals in Alaska?"

DURING READING (ask these questions):

1. "Why do you think Ferdinand wants to smell flowers instead of play with the other bulls?"
2. "Do you have special places you like to go to? What are they like and why are they special to you?"
3. Take note of the pictures: the growth

chart, the men's funny hats, the arena.

4. "How do you think Ferdinand felt as he was being carried away in the cart?"
5. Talk about celebrations or ceremonies (like bullfights in Spain) that your community might have.

AFTER READING (activity to extend book experience):

1. "What would you do if someone tried to make you do something that you really didn't want to do?" Go over some choices with your child.
2. "Why was Ferdinand's mother worried about him? Is there a difference

between being lonesome and liking to be alone?"

3. "What was your favorite part about this story?"
4. "What's different about Spain compared to Alaska?"

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* This activity created by students at the University of Alaska Anchorage.

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