



Mr Tripp Smells a Rat - Sandy McKay

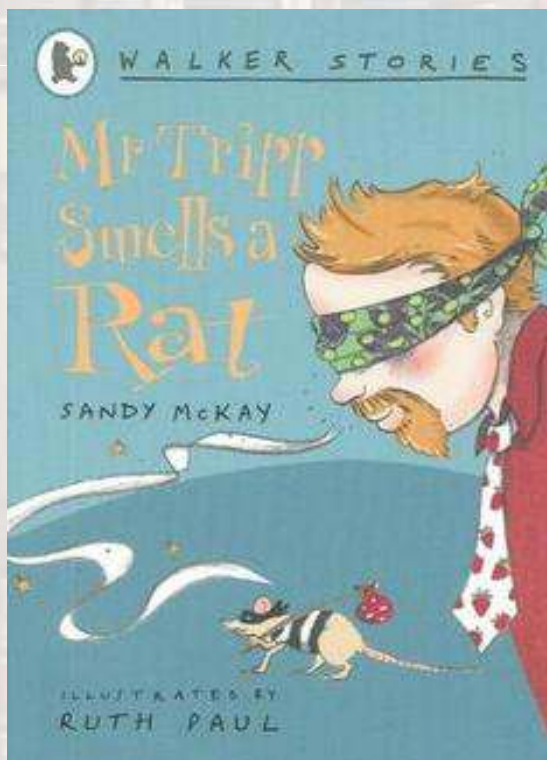
Published by Walker Books, RRP \$13.99

The kids in Room 5 know they're lucky to have good-natured Mr Tripp as their teacher. He's a kindly man who encourages his students to discover their talents. Lily is good at holding her breath, Julie can juggle oranges, Jamie is good at drawing frogs and Ted can balance on one leg for 85 seconds. Mr Tripp keeps his students' attention with occasional jokes and interesting lessons. There's only one thing he hates – rats! Of course, he encounters a rat and is forced to face his fear.

The three stories in this chapter book for early readers show the humorous side of what happens in an everyday classroom. Dialogue is a clever mix of the ordinary and the muddled conversations amongst students. The stories cover events such as birthdays, nits, hygiene, food, and a pet rodent.

Black and white drawings by Ruth Paul complement the stories and develop the characters' personalities. Junior readers will enjoy these stories about kids like themselves and their amusing classroom diversions.

Reviewed by children's book author, Jean Bennett.



Promoting the enjoyment of children's literature.