



For book *Arthur's Bad-News Day*, Level M

Script Levels: Grade 1 (Upper), Grade 2 (Middle), Grade 3 (Early)

Word Count: 426

Script Summary:

Arthur has been an only child for eight years and has just found out that a little sister is on the way. At first, Arthur is unhappy about the many ways in which her arrival will disrupt his life. He changes his tune after he holds her for the first time.

Objectives and Assessment

Monitor students to determine if they can:

- consistently read their lines with appropriate rate and accuracy
- consistently read their lines with appropriate expression, including pause, inflection, and intonation
- follow along silently and listen for spoken cues

Using the Scripts:

- Each role is assigned a reading level according to the syntactic and semantic difficulty encountered. Feel free to divide roles further to include more readers in a group.
- Discuss vocabulary and encourage readers to practice their lines to promote fluent delivery of the script.
- Have readers highlight their lines on the scripts, and encourage them to follow along as everyone reads.

Vocabulary:

High-frequency words: some, play, with, now

Story words: amazing, awful, diapers, news, tickling, yuck

Cast of Characters:

Grade 1 (Upper)	Grade 2 (Middle)	Grade 3 (Early)
Arthur	Narrator 3	Narrator 1
Mom	Narrator 4	Narrator 2
Dad		

Cast of Characters:

Parts		
Arthur	Narrator 3	Narrator 1
Mom	Narrator 4	Narrator 2
Dad		

Narrator 1:

Once, there was an eight-year-old boy named Arthur.
His life was great. Arthur was a happy boy.

Narrator 2:

Every morning Arthur's mom woke him up by **tickling** his feet. Arthur would laugh. His day always began happily. Let Arthur fill you in on some details.

Arthur:

I love breakfast. Dad makes me pancakes in the shape of Mickey Mouse.

Dad:

After school, we can play ball before dinner.
Would you like that Arthur?

Narrator 1:

Yes, Arthur has a good life.
He has cookies and milk for dessert.
Arthur even has his own special cup from Disneyland.
His parents spend a lot of time with him.

Narrator 2:

A few months ago, Arthur's parents had **news** that
Arthur thought was bad.
In fact, Arthur didn't like the news at all.

Mom:

You are going to have a baby sister.
Would you like that Arthur?

Narrator 1:

Arthur didn't like that at all.
He didn't want to share his parents with anybody.
His life was perfect the way it was.

Arthur:

I know what will happen.
My friend Jeff got a baby sister last year.
His parents don't have time for him now.

Narrator 3:

Arthur was feeling **awful**.

He knew parents took a lot of time to change **diapers**.

Stinky diapers.

Arthur:

YUCK! Diapers.

And it gets worse. Mom said I have to share
my bedroom with the baby. Diapers in my room!

I told Mom that I don't want a baby sister.

And I sure don't want to share my Disneyland cup.

Narrator 4:

None of what Arthur said seemed to matter.

The new baby was coming home today.

Arthur was not happy.

He didn't want to come out of his room. HIS room.

Narrator 3:

He wanted to tell his parents to take the baby back.

But then he saw his dad. His dad was carrying some
pink blankets. Arthur could barely see the small baby.

He did see his grandma.

Arthur:

Grandma looks inside the pink blanket.
She said oh, oh, oh. She hugs Mom.
I hear Grandma say the baby is beautiful.
I AM NOT GOING OUT THERE.
I AM GOING TO SIT RIGHT HERE!

Narrator 1:

Arthur's parents walk into his room.
His mom gives him the biggest hug ever.
His dad puts his new sister on his lap.
She looks so little inside the blankets.
Then the most **amazing** thing happens.

Narrator 2:

Arthur's baby sister reaches out and grabs his finger.
She won't let go! She seems to know that Arthur is
her big brother.

Arthur:

Well, she is cute.
Maybe having a baby sister won't be so bad.
I think Mom and Dad will have enough love for both of us!