Meet Chick and Brain. And their friend Spot. Chick likes to follow the rules. Brain might not be as smart as he looks. And Spot just wants to eat lunch. In a graphic reader loaded with verbal and visual humor, Cece Bell offers a comical primer on good manners gone awry.

Use Chick and Brain: Smell My Foot! in your classroom to talk about unlikely friendships, graphic novel form, and how to write humor.

HC: 978-0-7636-7936-1
• Chick and Brain are unlikely friends. Talk about what that means and why it helps to make the story funny. Ask students to name other books they’ve read with stories of unlikely friends.

• Genre study: Introduce your students to some basic graphic novel elements, such as panels and speech bubbles. Take a trip to the library and check out some other graphic novels.

• Talk about verbal and visual humor, and as a class make a list of examples of both from the book. Ask students to create their own humorous graphic stories.