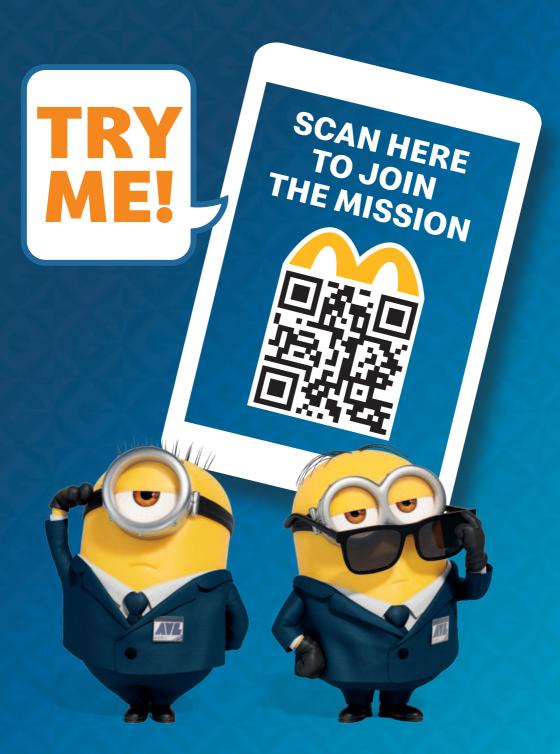
# DESPICABLE ME 4: MEET THE CHARACTERS



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# MINIONS





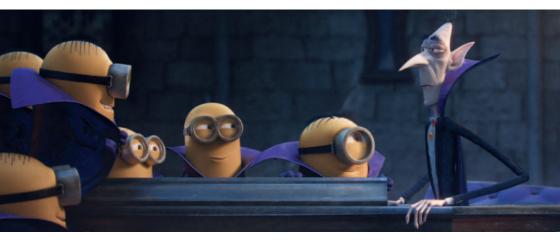
Meet the Minions! They are yellow, love bananas, and work for super villains.





For years, the Minions searched for the perfect employer. They worked for a dinosaur, a caveman, a pharaoh, and even a vampire.





#### But then they found Gru!







Gru was cunning. He was evil. He was the most despicable villain – the best boss ever!



The Minions work in Gru's secret lab. When they leave the house, they always try and blend in.





#### The Minions help Gru with his plans. From stealing a shrink ray...



#### ...to launching Gru into space to steal the moon!





They also operate his gadgets, including the smelliest gadget of all...the Fart Gun! They even honored Dr. Nefario with a 21-fart-gun salute. Stinky!





Dr. Nefario is Gru's gadget guru and loyal friend. He invented the Fart Gun, Cookie Robots, and Freeze Ray.



But everything changed when Gru met three orphan girls.

The girls helped Gru learn that happiness is more important than being a villain.









Margo is the oldest of the girls. She loves her sisters more than anything.





### EDITH

Edith is the middle sister and often up to no good. She loves a funny prank! (Just like the Minions!)



The youngest of the girls, Agnes, always thinks of others first. She loves Gru so much that she even sold her favourite unicorn toy to help pay the bills!





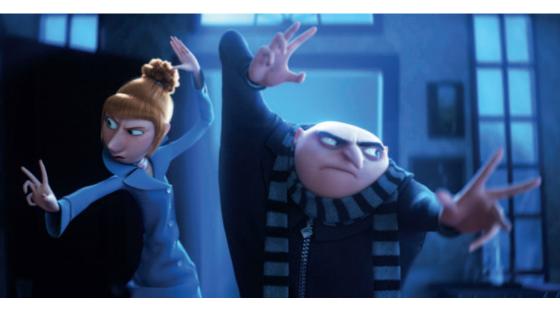
Before he adopted the girls, Gru wanted to be the most despicable villain, but it turns out...





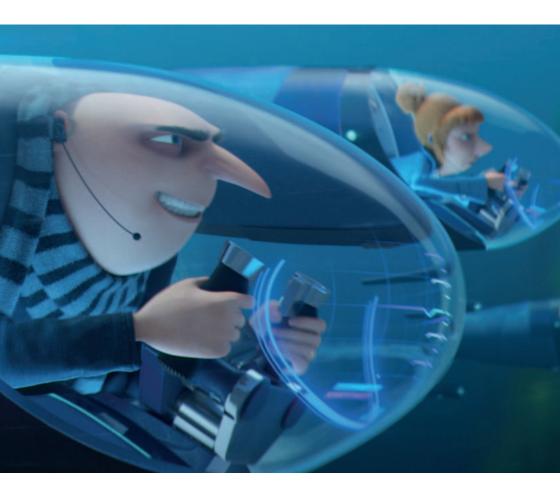
...he would rather be the best dad ever!

### Then, Gru joined the Anti-Villain League, an organization that protects the world from evil.





Gru met Lucy and they became super-spy partners. They also fell in love and got married!



Together, they keep the world safe from super villains.



# BALTHAZAR

They even stopped Balthazar Bratt and El Macho from destroying the world!





Gru and Lucy are some of the world's best secret agents and they want to be the best parents too!





They have a big surprise on the way...



...a baby boy!

Gru Jr. is curious and mischievous.





When he is not with his parents, Minions Darryl, Ron, and Phil take care of him. They can change a diaper faster than anyone else!



But there's a lot of evil in the world, and the Anti-Villain League needs more help. Five Minions are chosen to become... the Mega Minions!





Mega Dave is super strong. Mega Tim can stretch like elastic. Mega Mel can shoot a laser beam from his eye.





Mega Jerry has a tough, uncrushable rock body.





And Mega Gus can fly.



Can these heroes help save Gru and his family from the baddest super villain yet?





### **Reading Tips**

### Top tips to help families discover the magic of reading

Change your story

In this book, you will meet the characters of the brand-new film, Despicable Me 4. When reading together, engaging children in conversations and activities surrounding the story will encourage their enjoyment of reading.

#### Here are some top tips from the National Literacy Trust to help families bring this story, and others, to life at home:

- Go through the book together and make a list of all the animals and items that appear (bananas, a dinosaur, the moon). Using the internet or your local library, see if you can find one fact about each item.
- To become Mega Minions and help the Anti-Villain League, the Minions must gain a superpower. Ask your child what superpower they would want to have if they could help the Minions protect the world from evil. They could even draw themselves as a hero with their chosen superpower.
- Margo, Edith and Agnes help Gru learn that happiness is more important than being a villain. Together, can you make a list of things that make you happy?
- Children love to make up their own stories. Pause at an exciting part and ask them to imagine what happens next.
- What did your child really enjoy in this story (adventure, heroes, dinosaurs)? Can you, together, go out in search for more stories like that – either at home or in your local library? Stories come in all shapes and sizes. Whether it's a book, comic or magazine, it all counts as reading, so get exploring!

The National Literacy Trust is proud to partner with McDonald's to help families discover the magic of reading together.

Working in partnership with





Gru and the Minions are back! Get to know Gru the super-secret agent, his family, and agent, his family, and of the upcoming of the upcoming Despicable Me 4 film.