

THE MOLE SISTERS AND THE PIECE OF MOSS

written and illustrated by Roslyn Schwartz

Genre: Picture book, fiction

Themes: Friendship, Health/Wellness, Empathy, Adventure, Inclusion, Nature, Early Readers

Guided Reading Level: I

Suitable for: Grades K – 1

Summary

A picture book that features two moles who are both sisters and best friends. The sisters set out for a happy day and encounter a dispirited piece of moss. By sharing their day, they bring happiness to the moss and themselves.

ACTIVITY IDEAS

The following activity ideas are only a start. There are many possibilities for helping students construct meaning from text.

Comprehension activities:

- help readers to extend their general knowledge from prior experience
- develop reading strategies for comprehension
- bring relevance to the act of reading
- foster discussion and reflection through response to the text

BEFORE STARTING THE BOOK

Activities to build the context and introduce the topic of the book, and to establish prior knowledge and interest and develop predictions of what the text will be about.

1. What do you like to do outside?
2. How does playing outside make you feel?
3. What makes a person fun to play with outside?
4. What are the mole sisters doing on the cover?
5. How do you think the sisters feel? Why?

WHILE READING THE BOOK

Activities to check on comprehension, stimulate interest, involve readers in reflection as they read, and encourage consideration of other readers' reactions.

1. How do you think the sisters made their home? What ideas does the picture give you?
2. What's another word for "dull?" Can you think of a word that is the opposite of "dull?"
3. How do you think the piece of moss feels about himself? Why?
4. Is "boinga" a real word or a made up word? Why do you think the author used it?
5. How can you tell that the mole sisters are kind?
6. Why do the mole sisters laugh until sunset?
7. Why do the mole sisters think they are pretty?

AFTER READING THE BOOK

Activities to inspire continued reflection and response to the text, bring conclusion to the experience of reading this particular text, and stimulate further extensions.

1. What happened in the mole sisters' day?
2. How did the piece of moss change because he met the mole sisters?
3. Do you think the mole sisters are happy? Why? What makes them happy?
4. What do you do to feel happy?
5. What acts of kindness can you do for your family?