

# THE MOLE SISTERS AND THE WAY HOME

written and illustrated by Roslyn Schwartz

**Genre:** Picture book, fiction

**Themes:** Friendship, Adventure, Exploration, Imagination, Early Readers

**Guided Reading Level:** H

**Suitable for:** Grades K – 1

## Summary

A picture book that features two moles who are both sisters and best friends. The mole sisters explore a cave on a snowy day and leave their mark.

## 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 are some places you have explored? What did you discover?
2. What kinds of things do you think you would find and see if you explored a cave?
3. What do you think the mole sisters might discover on their way home?
4. What are they doing on the cover of the book?

## 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. What happy surprise do the mole sisters get on their way home?
2. What do they build instead of a snowman?
3. How would you feel about exploring this cave with the sisters?
4. What do the sisters discover in the cave?
5. Who do you think painted the pictures on the cave walls?
6. What do the mole sisters do when they can't find their pictures?
7. What do you think the sisters are talking about as they warm up by their campfire at the end of the day?

## 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. Imagine you are introducing the mole sisters to a friend. What would you say? "Meet my friends the mole sisters who ..."
2. How can you tell the sisters are experienced explorers?
3. What are some good safety rules to have in mind when you go exploring?
4. If you were going on an expedition, what would you put in your backpack?
5. What two friends would you invite to go exploring with you? Why would you choose these friends?