

THE MOLE SISTERS AND THE WAVY WHEAT

written and illustrated by Roslyn Schwartz

Genre: Picture book, fiction

Themes: Friendship, Adventure, Exploration, Self-confidence, Optimism, 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. One day the mole sisters decide to turn in a new direction as they leave the mole hole, and they are rewarded with an adventure in a field of wavy wheat.

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 things that you do the same way every day?
2. What might happen if you woke up one day and changed your routine?
3. What words can you think of to describe a person who loves adventure?
4. What's happening on the cover?
5. If we could listen to the mole sisters talking on the cover, what do you think they would be saying?

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. On the first page, where are the mole sisters?
2. How do the sisters decide which way to go?
3. Do you think the mole sisters know where they are when they come above ground? What words makes you think that?
4. Why does one of the sisters think "Oh dear" when she gets to the top of the wheat?
5. What surprises the mole sisters?
6. How can you tell the sisters share a love of adventure?
7. Why do the sisters say, "Now we've been everywhere."? What directions have they taken on their adventure?

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. How do you think the sisters feel as they climb into bed at night?
2. Are there still new directions for the mole sisters to explore? Which directions might they explore?
3. What kind of adventure would you like?
4. What do you have to do to have an adventure?
5. How can friends help you enjoy an adventure?