

Circle Dogs

by Kevin Henkes

A new take on simple shapes with diverse words and sentence structure – a story you will read again and again.



Read

Before:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow that with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, *The author calls these dogs "circle dogs" because they are shaped like tubes – long tubes. These dogs are actually called dachshunds.* Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an "I wonder" statement based on the cover illustration.

- I wonder if this book is about circles or dogs?

During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions, and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end. Point out "rare words" (e.g., those words that are not commonly used in every day conversation) and help the children relate the meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

Rare Words in *Circle Dogs*

- chatter: to talk rapidly or make a rapid series of high-pitched sounds
- moan: to make a long low sound that expresses pain or misery
- invisible: not able to be seen with the eyes

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- What is the real name for a circle dog?
- What did the circle dogs do when they woke up?
- What kind of holes do circle dogs dig?
- How many of you have a dog?
- Does your dog eat food that is dropped on the floor?
- What did the circle dogs do when the doorbell rang? When the mailman came? When friends stopped by?
- What did Mama call the circle dogs? Papa?

Do

Circle Sort

Cut several different-sized circles from construction paper. Which circle is the largest? Which circle is the smallest? How many circles are there? Have the children sequence the shapes from largest to smallest and from smallest to largest.

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