

If You Give a Mouse a Cookie

by Laura Joffe Numeroff

Hilarious illustrations will keep you turning pages to see what the little mouse will do next.



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, *This is a story about all the things that happen if you give a mouse a cookie. What are some things you think a mouse would do if you gave it a cookie?* 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 mouse likes chocolate chip cookies the best?

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 *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie*

- mustache: hair on the upper lip
- trim: to make something neat by clipping or cutting
- comfortable: relaxed
- fluff: to pat or brush something in order to get air into it
- remind: to cause somebody to think of something else

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- What's your favorite kind of cookie?
- What kind of cookie do you think the mouse likes?
- Cookies and milk are a delicious snack. How many of you have ever dipped your cookie in your milk?
- Why do you think the mouse needs a straw to drink the milk?
- The mouse gives himself a trim. Do you think your parents would let you trim your hair? Why or why not?
- What sort of things would make a good blanket and pillow for a mouse?
- What do you think was in the picture that the mouse drew?
- What sort of things do you have hanging on your refrigerator at home?

Do

Favorite Cookie Graph

Print "Our Favorite Cookies" across the top of a large piece of poster board. Paste pictures of different types of cookies along the left-hand side of the poster board. Each child's name or picture should then be placed next to the picture of his or her favorite cookie. Discuss the results. Which cookie is liked the most? The least? Is there a cookie that no one likes?