

The Forever Flowers

by Michael J. Rosen

A bird that is unable to move south in the fall spends winter waiting for spring and the forever flowers to bloom again.



R.E.D. Zone

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, **where do birds go for the winter?** 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 what the bird is carrying.

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. Introduce the concepts of comparison, perspective and persuasion to help the children relate to their meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

Rare Words in *The Forever Flowers*

- EPIGRAPH: a short saying at the start of a book that introduces the theme
- abundance: a lot of something
- grouse: a type of bird
- sudden: happening quickly
- pleaded: begged
- woven: a type of fabric
- migrating: moving seasonally
- exhausted: very tired
- muffled: a quiet sound
- drafts: blasts of air
- reverberated: loud echoing sound
- plumed: a mass of smoke that rises up in the air
- wafts: moves lightly through air
- companion: friend
- impatience: ready for change
- revel: enjoy something
- romp: play
- unexpectedly: surprisingly
- disappeared: no longer seen
- restless: unable to relax
- persuaded: caused someone to do something
- contentedly: happily
- timidly: unsure
- cautiously: carefully
- gradually: slowly

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After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- What is the order of the seasons?
- Where are the birds going in the winter?
- What did the bird want to take with her?
- What happened to the bird when she was flying?
- Who rescued the bird from the water?
- Where did the dog take the bird?
- What was the bird waiting for?
- What did the three companions do to pass the time?
- What did the three companions do on the first spring day?
- What did the companion do with the seeds?
- Where did the bird go in the end?

Do

Bagel Bird Feeder

Supplies

- Day old bagels
- Peanut butter
- Birdseed
- String

Cover the bagel in peanut butter and roll it in birdseed. Using the string, hang it outside on a tree. Watch the bird feeder from a window and talk about the different birds that come to enjoy their snack.