

# Sneezy the Snowman

by Maureen Wright

Using rhymes and repetitions, this colorfully illustrated book teaches a group of friends about problem solving as they try to keep a snowman warm without melting!



## 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, *Do you think snowmen react to hot and cold like we do?* 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 how a snowman could catch a cold?

### 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 *Just a Snowman*:

- cocoa: a beverage made by mixing cocoa powder with hot milk or water
- melted: became liquefied by warmth or heat, as ice or snow
- puddle: a small pool of water
- swirled: to move around or along with a whirling motion
- sneezed: emitted air or breath suddenly, forcibly, and audibly through the nose and mouth
- gigantic: very large; huge
- freezing: extremely or uncomfortably cold; chilled
- shivering: shaking and trembling with cold, fear, or excitement
- coal: a black or dark-brown combustible mineral substance
- stocking cap: a long conical, knitted cap, usually with a tassel or pompon at the tip
- surprise: an act or instance of surprising or being surprised
- campfire: an outdoor fire for warmth or cooking
- bright: vivid or brilliant

## After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- What did Sneezzy ask for first to warm him up?
- What kind of drink did they give him?
- What happened to Sneezzy?
- What did he get into that caused him to melt?
- What types of clothing did the children share with Sneezzy?
- What did Sneezzy go near that caused him to melt?
- What did Sneezzy eat that made him feel just right?
- How many scoops did it take?



Do

## Beanbag Rhyme Time

**You will need:** a beanbag and clear area of floor, blacktop or grass

Gather the children into a circle. Have the children think about the kinds of words that rhyme in the book (a lot, hot, not and new, flew, blew, etc.). Give the beanbag to one of the children and have them determine a word in which the whole group will try to find a rhyming word for. Have them toss the beanbag to another student...that student will then try to find a word that rhymes. They then pass it to another student. If they can't come up with one, they are out and have to sit out until the next round. The next student will come up with a new word to rhyme, and so on.