

The Little Mouse, The Red Ripe Strawberry, and The Big Hungry Bear

by Don and Audrey Wood

Beautiful full page illustrations engage children as they cheer for the adorable mouse, who frantically struggles to keep his ripe strawberry safe.



Read

Before:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, *Do you think a bear would take a strawberry from a mouse?* 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 why the mouse is trying to be quiet?

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 *The Little Mouse, The Red Ripe Strawberry, and the Big Hungry Bear*

- ripe: ready to eat
- mile: a unit of distance
- tromp: to walk heavily
- guarding: to protect somebody or something
- disguised: to change something's appearance to avoid recognition

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- Who was talking to the little mouse?
- What was the little mouse going to do?
- Why was the mouse afraid?
- How would the bear find the strawberry?
- What were some ways that the little mouse tried to hide the strawberry from the bear?
- Who did the mouse share the strawberry with?
- What did the mouse and the narrator do with the strawberry?
- Do you think there ever really was a bear?



Do

















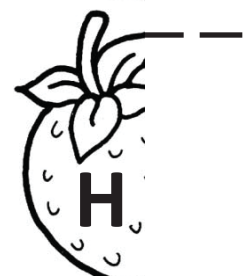

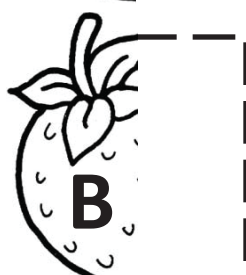

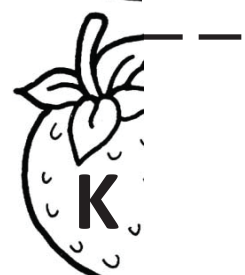


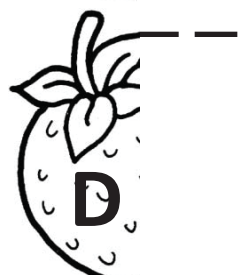
Big A - Little a...

After reading the story, hand out the *Big A- Little a* sheet. Go through and name each letter. Allow the children enough time to cut out the lowercase letters. As a class match each lowercase letter to the correct uppercase letter. Once all the letters have been matched, allow the children to color each strawberry.

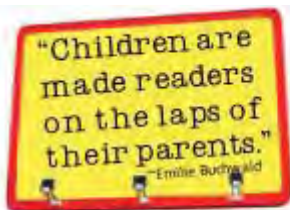
My Name: _____

Big A – Little a

Glue the lowercase letter in the dotted box next to the correct uppercase letter.

	
---	---

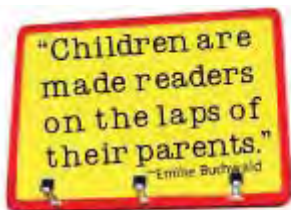


My Name: _____

Big A - Little a

Page 2

Cut out each lower case letter.



R.E.D. Zone
Sponsored by Pizza Hut

www.bookitprogram.com/redzone

Visit the R.E.D. Zone for more reading-readiness printables, read-aloud tips, resources and more!