



## How The Grinch Stole Christmas

by Dr. Seuss

“He puzzled and puzzled till his puzzler was sore.  
Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn’t before.  
‘Maybe Christmas,’ he thought, ‘doesn’t come from a store.  
Maybe Christmas, perhaps, means a little bit more.”

This quote from the text highlights the primary message in this Christmas classic. Through his rhyming verse and made-up words, Dr. Seuss’s text poses an answer to the question, “What is the meaning of Christmas?”

The book was published in 1957. Due to its popularity, it has been made into a movie, a television cartoon, and a musical. In a 2007 poll of its members, the National Education Association named it one of Teacher’s Top 100 Books for Children. In 2012, the School Library Journal named it one of the Top 100 Picture Books of All Time. The Grinch ranks with Scrooge as a cranky, scowling, and greedy character that has stood the test of time as a classic holiday literary fixture.

Along with composing the text, Dr. Seuss drew the illustrations. He used his traditional pen and ink style with some red thrown in. It’s a surprise to many readers that the Grinch wasn’t green until the 1966 cartoon video. Notice the same expressions on the faces of the Who’s in both the first illustration and the last. Notice the many facial expressions of the Grinch. Dr. Seuss uses these expressions to illustrate the point that the Who’s were the same from the beginning of the story to the end. However, the Grinch undergoes quite an emotional transformation. The story revolves around how his feelings change.

The Reading Comprehension Best Practice of **Self-Monitoring Comprehension** will keep us focused on an essential question “How does the Grinch steal Christmas?” As you go through both the **First** and **Second Readings** your child and you will be focusing on information from the illustrations and the text to answer the question.