



## The Mitten

### First Reading: Illustrations

To allow the brain to focus on the information in the illustrations this reading will look only at the illustrations. As you enjoy these beautiful drawings, you'll be making many inferences and conclusions about the elements of the story that will be revealed in the Second Reading. Each full-page spread is full of information about the story and the culture of Ukraine. Notice that inside each of the mitten cutouts is additional information about the plot. You'll, also, notice that the animals appear in the cutouts before they appear in the full illustrations.

\*If the pages aren't numbered, the text begins on page 1.

\*Remember in this reading you ask the questions as you are looking at the illustrations.

\*Try to keep your storytime to 20 minutes. If you are not done with the reading pick it up again another night.

### Pages 1 - 5:

- What is the setting of the story? Setting is when and where the story takes place. (in the past, in the winter, in another country)
- Who do you think the woman is?
- What do you think the woman is knitting?
- On page 5, do you notice anything in the illustration that you might want to tell the boy? (He has dropped his mitten.)
- What is the animal that has appeared? (If you don't know, you'll find out during the Second Reading.)



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### Pages 6 - 9:

- On page 7, where do you think the rabbit is going?
- On pages 8 and 9, what might the animals be saying to each other?
- On page 9, who do you think the new animal is?

### Pages 10 - 19:

- As you move from page to page and each new animal appears repeat the same discussion:
  - Try to identify each new animal.
  - Discuss what the animals might be thinking and saying to each other.
- On page 17, what do you think is going to happen with the bear?
- On pages 18 and 19, do you think the bear will fit into the mitten with the other animals?
- Review how many animals are in the mitten and what the animals are.
- Predict what the mouse will do.

### Pages 20 - 23:

- On pages 20 and 21, look at the boy in the cutouts. What might he be thinking?
- How are the animals feeling inside the mitten?
- On pages 22 and 23, what might the boy be doing?
- What do you think has happened with the animals? Where is the mitten?

### Pages 24 - END:

- What is happening with the mitten?
- On page 26, what might the boy be thinking?
- What might the woman be thinking on the last page?