



The Mitten

Second Reading: Text & Vocabulary

The primary focus of this reading is to read the story and talk about the great vocabulary used by Jan Brett.

Your child and you will be looking for connections between the text and the illustrations. They complement each other by providing information to aid deep comprehension of the story.

*Read the series of pages before you ask the questions.

*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:

- Do you agree with Baba or Nicki about the white mittens? Discuss.
- Why do you think Baba changes her mind and knits white mittens for Nicki?

Pages 6 - 9:

- On page 6, **burrowed**: make a hole or tunnel, especially to use as a dwelling. What do you think the word **burrowed** might mean?
- On page 7, find the mole's tunnels.
- Is a snowshoe rabbit similar to the rabbits that live around your home?
- On page 8, what are the snowshoe rabbit's **big kickers**? (his back legs)



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Pages 10 - 19:

There are many unique vocabulary words on these pages.

- On page 10, **snuffling**: sniffing, breathing through the nose in a noisy way. Can you make a **snuffling** sound like the hedgehog makes?
- On page 10, **jostled**: bumped, pushed, or shoved. If you were the mole or the rabbit, would you allow the hedgehog to **jostle** you?
- On page 12, **commotion**: noisy disturbance. What causes the **commotion** that attracts the owl? (the animals trying to fit into the mitten)
- On page 12, **talons**: claws. Point to the owl's **talons**.
- On page 14, what do you think the badger's **diggers** are? (short front legs. Badgers are fierce fighters.)
- On page 17, **waft**: light, gentle breeze. On such a cold winter night, what caused the **waft** of warm steam? (the warm breaths of the animals)
- On page 17, from the sense of the page, think of a word that we can use in place of drowsy. "Just the sight of the cozy mitten made him feel _____."
- On page 18, **lumbered**: to move in a clumsy, heavy way. Can you think of any other animals that **lumber** like a bear when they walk?
- On page 18, from the sense of the text, what does **plumped up** mean? (full and stretching out)
- Take time to go back over each of the animals in the mitten. Recall each of the reasons the animals allow a new animal into the mitten.

Pages 20 - END:

- Why does the bear allow the little meadow mouse to sit upon his nose?
- On page 25, **silhouetted**: to show an outline of an object against a lighter background. Why might Nicki see only the **silhouette** of the mitten instead of the actual mitten?
- What do you think all of the animals will do now?
- Is having white mittens a good idea?