



The Golden Cheeseboard

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Text type: Fiction, Funny, Partner Text

Focus words: delicious, join

Synopsis

In this story, the royal family love eating cheese so much that they set up a competition to find the most delicious cheese in the kingdom. Everyone is surprised by the winner.

How to use this book

- Each Word Sparks book contains a small number of focus words. These are words to discuss with the child, not for the child to decode.

- You might like to read the book more than once:

First read: Focus on understanding and enjoying the book.

Second read: Ensure understanding of the book is secure.

Third read: Look in more detail at the focus words or follow a particular learning focus that you're working on.

This page is for the adult to read.

This page is for you and the child to look at and talk about together.



These focus word boxes are for the adult to read. Whenever it feels right, pause and talk about the focus words.

Group/Guided reading

Introducing the book

- Look together at the cover and read the title to the children. As this story is set in a palace, encourage the children to imagine what it might be like in a palace and to think about the sounds they might hear. Then continue with the Sound warm up activity on the inside front cover.
- Open the book and explain how it works: you will read one page and then you will talk about what's happening in the story.

Reading the book

- Read the adult page to the children, pointing out what is happening in the picture.
- Look at the child page together and encourage the children to talk about what they see in the picture and what they think is happening.
- On p7, ask the children what they think the rat has in its parcel.
- On p9, ask the children why they think the rat is bringing cheese instead of eating it.

Returning to the book

- Look again at p5. Ask the children why they think the competitors are covering their noses. (Drawing inferences)
- Look back at p7. Ask the children what they think the rat is thinking on this page. (Drawing inferences)
- Re-read the adult text on p8. Ask the children to listen for two words that mean the same as 'parcel'. (package, bundle) (Understanding vocabulary choice)
- Look at p11. Ask: Do you think the rat will stay and become friends with everyone in the kingdom? (Making predictions)

Independent reading

- Introduce the book as in the Introducing the book section above.
- Check that the child knows how to hold the book and turn the pages, and look at each spread from left to right to help establish the direction of reading.
- Ask the child to turn the pages of the book and to think about what they see in the pictures. Remember to give lots of encouragement and praise.
- Use the focus word boxes to discuss the focus words.

Speaking and listening

Encourage the children to talk about what food they think is delicious and to draw pictures of their favourite three things to eat.

Taking vocabulary further

- Talk to the children about the different cheeses used in the book as character names and ask them to think of the names of any cheeses they know and like.
- Encourage the children to listen out for the focus words, for example in other books they are listening to, during conversations or while watching television.

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