



Horton Hears a Who!

by Dr. Seuss

A loveable, soft-hearted elephant tries to protect some very tiny creatures – and proves that one person can make a difference.

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, what do you think this story is about? 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 if this elephant is as friendly as he looks?*

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

- faint-feeling weak or dizzy
- yelp-to give a quick, sharp cry
- speck-a very little bit or small spot
- murmured-to speak in a low tone
- steer-to guide
- clover-a plant with tiny flower heads
- sincerely-real and genuine
- sour-grouchy
- keen-sharp and fine
- disturb-to interrupt or bother
- fool-a silly or stupid person
- hustled-to move quickly and hurriedly
- harm-to hurt or cause damage or injury
- Mayor-the chief of a town
- grateful-deeply appreciative of a kindness
- rot-an expression of disgust or disagreement
- nonsense-something absurd or that doesn't make sense
- groans-a low, mournful sound of pain
- tattered-torn and ragged
- battered-to beat or pound
- yapping-to talk in a sharp, shrill manner
- fail-to fall short or be unsuccessful
- peaceable-tranquil and peaceful



- lasso-to catch with a long rope
- vigor-energy and strength
- vim-lively and energetic
- mauled-to handle roughly
- whooped-to cry out with excitement
- racket-loud and noisy
- hullabaloo-a noisy uproar
- shirking-to avoid responsibility or work
- ruckus-a noisy rumpus
- twerp-an insignificant fellow

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- What was Horton doing when he heard the small noise?
- Who was making the noise?
- Why didn't the kangaroos believe that Horton was talking to someone?
- Did the other jungle animals believe that the Whos actually existed?
- Who snatched the clover from Horton?
- Where did the eagle drop the clover?
- What happened to the Whos and their town when the eagle dropped them in the clover?
- How many monkeys did it take to capture Horton?
- Was everyone in Who-ville making noise?
- What happened when everyone in Who-ville made noise?
- Will the kangaroos really help the Whos?

DO

Simple Science

Place a 'dust speck' on a microscope slide, look into the microscope and see what is there! Draw a picture of what you see. (Note-It may be necessary to place a drop of water on the speck of dust and place a clear slide cover over it to view it well.)

