

## A Mouse in the House

by Jane Buxton

### Summary

A visiting mouse saves a young girl from having to wear the new sneakers she dislikes. In return, the girl helps the mouse to escape the mousetraps her mother has hidden around the house.

### Features of the Text

- Realistic fiction
- Direct speech
- Problem-solving focus
- Information about animal behavior

### Purpose

*A Mouse in the House* can be used for the following purposes:

- introducing the ideas and vocabulary in the associated nonfiction title;
- making predictions;
- identifying the problems and solutions in a narrative.

### Guided Reading Summary

#### Introducing the text

Ask the students to share any experiences of having mice in their homes.

- *Does anyone have a pet mouse?*
- *Has anyone had mice in their home that weren't pets?*
- *What kinds of problems do mice cause?*
- *Can mice ever be helpful?*
- *What can we do to keep mice away from our homes?*

#### Reading and discussing the text

Ask the students to read to the end of page 3.

- *What do you think Jamie will do about her new sneakers?*
- *Think about the title of the book. Does that change your prediction?*

Ask the students to read to the end of page 4. Tell them to continue making, checking, and revising their predictions as they read.

- *Were your predictions correct?*
- *How do you think Jamie will feel about having a mouse in her house?*
- *Will she help to get rid of the mouse? Why/why not?*

Ask the students to read to the end of page 11.

- *Did Jamie do what you thought she would?*
- *What do you think she will do next?*

Ask the students to read the rest of the story.

- *Was your prediction correct?*
- *How else could the problem have been solved?*
- *How do predictions help us to understand a story as we read it?*

### Following Up

The students can:

- use the copy master on page 62 to list the problems that arise in the story and how each one is resolved
- make a poster to be read by mice advertising the features of a house they would find appealing.