



Holey Moley

By Bethan Clarke, illustrated by Anders Frang

Before reading the book

- Show the child the front cover and ask what they notice about the title.
- Turn the book over and read the back cover. Ask if they can guess where the mole in the story lives.
- Look at the end pages. Ask the child to find and name the animals in the trees.

Reading the book

- After the first reading, reread the story aloud, asking the child to chime in on the rhyming words.
- Hone language skills by asking the child to add their own rhyming suggestions as you read.
- Page back through the book, stopping to ask the child to find and name the other animals in the illustrations. Ask them to imagine what their homes might be.
- Review the book with the child and talk about how the illustrations and design make the story even more fun: the animals' expressions and body language, the use of speech bubbles, the color palette, and so on.

Activities after reading

- Together with the child, make a list of words to describe Gus and another to describe Mavis. How are they alike? How are they different? Are they friends?
- Have the child choose another animal from the book or another animal altogether. Together, make up your own silly guessing game using rhyming words. Have the child draw pictures to go along, if they'd like.
- Using other resources such as reference books or the internet, help the child research more about the real homes and lives of moles, or another animal the child chooses.

