



# WHO TOOK THE COOKIES FROM THE COOKIE JAR?

AUTHOR: BONNIE LASS & PHILEMON STURGES

ILLUSTRATOR: ASHELY WOLFF

See a video of the book read aloud here: [Who Took the Cookies from the Cookie Jar?](#)

**\*\* REMEMBER: HAVE FUN AND THE KIDS WILL TOO! \*\***

## OVERVIEW

### ABOUT THE BOOK

This book is an adaptation of the classic playground song with the same (or similar) name. In this version, Skunk is trying to solve the mystery of who took the cookies by asking his animal friends (mouse, raven, squirrel, rabbit, turtle, raccoon, snake, beaver and frog) that very same question. (amazon.com)

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Bonnie Lass is a children's textbook editor. She teaches a class in children's literature at Boston University. This is the first book she wrote for children. She lives in Brookline, Massachusetts.

Philemon Sturges is an award-winning author of several children's books. He was an architect in Rhode Island before becoming a writer.

### ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Ashley Wolff has illustrated many books for children. She wanted to be an artist from the time she was small and her favorite things to draw were princesses and horses. Ms. Wolff lives in Vermont on a lake.

## THE READ ALOUD

### BEFORE READING

Use these before reading the story to help students activate background knowledge and make predictions:

- Thumbs up if you already know this as a song.
- So what might make this story different from the version you know?
- What types of animals are on the cover?

### DURING THE STORY

Use these while reading the story to help students interpret the action and content.

- (p. 2) Why does skunk think he knows who took his cookies? Tell me more about his clothes and where he might live.

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### TOPICS & THEMES:

- Puzzle solving
- Investigating
- Perseverance

*Tips for every book!*

### POWER PHRASES:

*I WONDER...*

*I NOTICE...*

*TELL ME MORE...*

### DIGGING DEEPER:

*"Tell me more, why do you think that?"*

*"How do you know that?"*

*"Why do you think they feel like that?"*

*"Interesting, did you notice anything else?"*

- (p. 3) Find the rhyming words from mouse. (These can be identified on other pages as well)
- (p. 4) I wonder where that feather came from. What do you think?
- (p. 7) What's squirrel doing with all those nuts?
- (p. 8) Who do you think took a bite out of that cactus?
- (p. 11) Does anyone know the difference between turtles and tortoises?
- (p. 14) How do we know that the snake ate an antelope?
- (p. 16) Tell me more about what the beaver is doing?
- (p. 18) What are gnats?
- (p. 19) So who do you think could have taken these cookies?
- (p. 20) How in the world can little ants carry all those cookies?

## AFTER READING

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*Use these after reading the story to help students understand what they just read.*

- What was your favorite part of this book? Why?

## BRINGING THE BOOK TO LIFE!

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- Raise your hand if you have been on a picnic.
- What type of food do you bring with you?
- What type of food do you think ants like best?
- How do we keep the ants away from our picnic?

## COOPERATIVE LEARNING

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- Share with a partner what is your favorite type of cookie. Let's list some of them on the board. Count how many types we name.

## EXTENSION ACTIVITY

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- Form a circle. Give each child an animal name from the book. Choose one player (Skunk) to begin the chant.
  - Everyone: Who took the cookies from the cookie jar?
  - Skunk: Raven took the cookies from the cookie jar.
  - Raven: Who me?
  - Everyone: Yes you!
  - Raven: Couldn't be.
  - Everyone: Then who?

Continue till all players (animals) have a chance to be blamed.