



Ruthie

READ ALOUD GUIDE

Themes: Adventure, Family, Perspectives

Book Brief: A charming story about Ruthie, who believes he's a prince living in a castle but discovers through adventure what really matters most—home and love!

Author:
Esmé Shapiro

Illustrator:
Esmé Shapiro

BEFORE READING

The Cover: Ask students to make a prediction about the story based on the cover and title.

The Pictures: Take a quick picture walk and ask students what they notice about the illustrations.

Prior Knowledge: Ask, "Have you ever wanted to go on an adventure somewhere new? What did you miss about home?" (Optional: Think, Pair, Share)

Vocabulary: Frontload Tier 2 words using the accompanying [Vocabulary Guide](#).

Purpose for Reading: "As we read, pay attention to how Ruthie sees himself and his home. Think about how his point of view changes throughout the story."

DURING READING

Check for understanding & make connections:

- How does Ruthie see himself at the beginning of the story?
- What does Ruthie call his home and the person he lives with?
- Why do you think Ruthie want to explore beyond his home?
- How does Ruthie feel when he's out on his adventure?



Think Aloud: "Ruthie sees himself as a prince in a castle, but as readers, we might see things differently. When he goes on his adventure and feels cold and hungry, his point of view begins to change. He realizes his 'castle' and 'queen' were pretty special after all."

AFTER READING

Our Purpose: "How did Ruthie see himself and his home at the beginning? How did his point of view change by the end of the story?"

Extending Our Thinking: Ask students, "Where did Ruthie go on his adventure, and what did he find there?" Encourage students to draw a map showing Ruthie's journey and the obstacles he faced. Students can share their maps and explain how the different places affected Ruthie's experiences.

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- Explore 100 other free eBooks on Skybrary! Visit www.Skybrary.org to learn more.
- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more about the topic by reading other books with similar themes, structure, characters, or content.