

# WISCONSIN BOOKWORMS™

# Activity Sheet



## "The Missing Mitten Mystery"

By Steven Kellogg

Annie has already lost four mittens this winter, and now she's done it again. She and her dog, Oscar, set out to retrace their steps through the snow. As Annie and Oscar return to where they went sledding and built snow castles, the day's adventures appear inset in boxes. They follow a bird, and the boxed action becomes Annie's imaginings: the bird has used her mitten for its nest; a mouse is using it for a sleeping bag. Annie wonders if she might grow a mitten tree so she'll have enough mittens to give away on holidays. But when the sun comes out and the snowman she has made begins melting, the mitten makes its appearance as a snowman's heart.

**Before you read this book:** Talk about snowy winter days. What kinds of clothes do we wear when it's snowing? What do kids like to do on snowy days? How about grownups?

**While you read this book:** "Search" each illustration for the mitten. Look behind, above, below.

**After you read this book:** Collect all of your mittens/gloves. Hide one mitten from each pair before you read the book. After you finish reading, go on a mitten scavenger hunt — indoors or outdoors. As you find each hidden mitten, have the children match them in pairs.

**Try this at home:** Make play dough snowmen with mitten hearts. For the hearts, you can use cinnamon cookie decorations or a red gummy bear. Play dough recipe: Mix together 1 cup flour, 1 cup boiling water, 2 tablespoons cream of tartar, ½ cup salt and 1 tablespoon of oil. Be careful; it can be quite hot!

**Enjoy more books with this same theme:** *"Something Is Going to Happen," "The First Snowfall," "Sadie and the Snowman," "Chicken Soup With Rice," "The Mitten," "Our Snowman," "The Snowy Day," "First Snow" and "The Snowman Who Went for a Walk"*

WISCONSIN BOOKWORMS™: Giving young children an opportunity to be read to and own their first new books, this project is supported by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting with additional funding provided by Friends of WPT, WAHCE and local county-based partners.