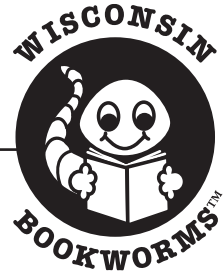


WISCONSIN BOOKWORMS™

Activity Sheet



Groundhog Gets a Say

As told to Pamela Curtis Swallow, illustrated by Denise Brunkus

"I am more than a shadow." It's Feb. 3, and Groundhog is fed up. There ought to be a Groundhog Appreciation Month!

Before you read this book: Consider reading this book in February on or around Groundhog Day, Feb. 2. Bring in a February calendar page to talk about Groundhog Day. Make signs with groundhog facts from the book. For example, "I am also called a Whistle Pig because I whistle very loudly when there is danger," "I am also called a Woodchuck," "I can move 700 pounds of dirt and rock every day," "I can climb trees." Introduce the book by pointing out some of the facts on the signs. Ask if any of your kids have ever seen a groundhog.

While you read this book: Point out the groundhog facts around the room.

Reading Tip: Run your finger under the text while reading.

After you read this book: Use the sun or a lamp indoors to trace shadows of the kids and stuffed animals.

Try this at home! Make a pop-up groundhog puppet to act out the groundhog popping out of his hole! Supplies needed: Paper cup (or styrofoam cup), craft stick (Popsicle stick), brown construction paper, crayons, markers or tempera paint, scissors and glue. Optional: googly eyes.

Cut a circle or oval from the brown construction paper to make the body and a smaller circle for the head. Draw a mouth and eyes (or glue on googly eyes). Glue the two pieces onto the Popsicle stick. Cut a small slit in the bottom of the cup. Decorate the cup by drawing grass and bushes with markers or tempera paint. Insert your groundhog into the cup and help him pop-up on Groundhog Day. Does he see his shadow?

Tell your child how much you enjoy reading with him or her. Talk about "story time" as the favorite part of your day.

From Reading Rockets: Launching Young Readers: <http://www.pbs.org/launchingreaders/>

Extend the fun: Substitute *Groundhog* by Pat Miller, illustrated by Kathi Ember. Older kids also will like *Groundhog Day!* by Gail Gibbons and *The Groundhog Day Book of Facts and Fun* by Wendie C. Old and Paige Billin-Frye.



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 WHA-TV Inc, WAHCE and local county-based partners.