

# Sam and Dave Dig a Hole

## A RIF GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

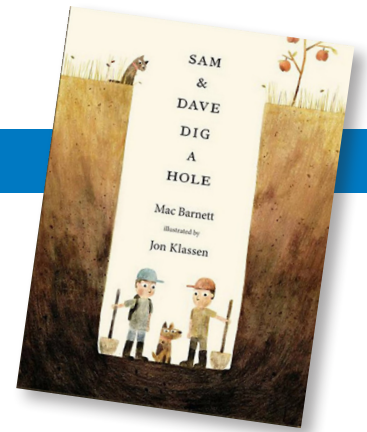
**Themes:** Earth Science, Rocks and Minerals, Adventure

**Book Brief:** Sam and Dave set off to find something spectacular while digging in the backyard. Will they find the treasure they're hoping for?

**Author:** Mac Barnett

**Illustrator:** Jon Klassen

**Content Connections:**  
Science



## TIME TO READ!



### BEFORE WE READ, LET'S LOOK AT...

**The Cover:** What clues on the cover let you know the *genre* of this story? Based on the cover illustration and the title, what do you think the story is about?

**The Pictures:** Show students

the cover page illustration. Have them list all the details they notice in the picture.

**Prior Knowledge:** Discuss how long it takes to dig a hole. What type of soil might be easiest to dig in? What types of rocks are most commonly found in your area? When people dig big holes, what types of machines do they typically use to make the job easier?

**Vocabulary:** spectacular

**Purpose for Reading:** As we read, use clues from the story to make *inferences*. At the end of the story, you will need to *infer* where Sam and Dave ended up in their digging adventure.

## WHILE WE READ

### MONITORING COMPREHENSION

- ◆ Why do you think the author began with “On Monday” instead of “One day”?
- ◆ What is a mission?
- ◆ How would you define “spectacular”?
- ◆ How long do you think they’ve been digging?
- ◆ What does the dog know?

- ◆ How do you think Sam and Dave are related?
- ◆ Why did the dog finally help with the digging?
- ◆ Where did they end up?



## LET'S THINK ABOUT



**Our Purpose:** Using clues from the text, what inferences did you make about the dog? About Sam and Dave? What inference can you make about where they landed?

**Extending Our Thinking:** How did the author use clues to create a deeper storyline than what was written in the text? What types of rocks and minerals would you find if you dug a hole in your backyard? With a partner, think about how long it would realistically take to dig a hole like Sam and Dave's. Compare your estimate with another group and explain your reasoning to each other. Were your answers similar? Why did you come up with different estimates?

### NOTE TO EDUCATORS

- ◆ Extension Activities for Educators also available.
- ◆ Vocabulary Scaffolding Sheet also available.



Reading Is Fundamental