



Christmas on the Farm

READ ALOUD GUIDE

Themes: Generosity, Kindness, Christmas Spirit

Book Brief: Tommy gives his farm animals the best treat ever – and gets an unexpected treat of his own.

Author:
Storytime

Illustrator:
Alena Tkach

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, “How do you celebrate Christmas? Have you ever done something special for an animal or pet during the holidays?” (Optional: Think-Pair-Share)

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

Purpose for Reading: “As we read, think about the message or lesson of this story. What can we learn from Tommy’s kind actions?”



Think Aloud: “I’m thinking about the lesson this story teaches. Tommy shares Christmas with his animals instead of keeping both trees for himself. Then something magical happens... The message seems to be that when we are generous and kind to others, we often receive something special in return.”

DURING READING

Check for understanding & make connections:

- What happens when two Christmas trees arrive at Tommy’s farm?
- What does Tommy decide to do with the second tree?
- How do the animals react to the Christmas tree in the barn?
- What unexpected treat does Tommy receive?

AFTER READING

Our Purpose: “What is the central message or lesson of this story? What happened when Tommy was generous with the animals?”

Extending Our Thinking: Ask students, “If the animals could talk to you, what do you think they would say? What would you want to tell them?” Encourage students to choose their favorite farm animal from the story (or another animal they like) and create a drawing or [comic strip](#) showing a conversation between themselves and that animal. Students should include speech bubbles showing what both the animal and they would say to each other, then share their conversations with the class.

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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.