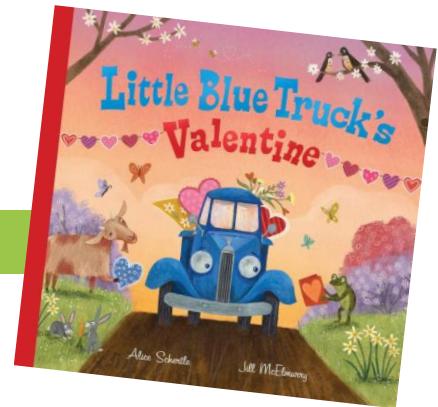


# Little Blue Truck's Valentine

## READ ALOUD GUIDE

**Themes:** Kindness, Valentine's Day, Friendship

**Book Brief:** Celebrate Valentine's Day with Little Blue Truck in this heartwarming read-aloud from the beloved best-selling series!



**Author:**  
Alice Schertle

**Illustrator:**  
Jill McElmurry

## 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, "What is Valentine's Day? How do we show our friends and family we care about them?" (Optional: Think-Pair-Share)

**Vocabulary:** Frontload Tier 2 words using the accompanying Vocabulary Guide.

**Purpose for Reading:** "As we read, think about who is in the story, where it happens, and what important things happen."



**Think Aloud:** "I'm noticing that Little Blue Truck is the main character. He visits all his farm animal friends and gives them valentines. The important event is that he's being kind and thoughtful, but he wonders if his friends will remember him too."

## DURING READING

### Check for understanding & make connections:

- What is Little Blue Truck doing?
- Who are Little Blue's friends?
- How does Little Blue show his friends he cares?
- How does Little Blue feel as he delivers the valentines?

## AFTER READING

**Our Purpose:** "Who was in the story? What happened? How did Little Blue show kindness to his friends?"

**Extending Our Thinking:** Ask students, "How do you show your friends and family that you care about them?" Encourage students to use [RIF's Valentine's Day Letter Writing Template](#) to write a valentine letter to a friend, family member, classmate, or teacher. They can fill in the template with their message and decorate it to show someone they care. Students can share their letters and deliver them to spread kindness, just like Little Blue Truck.

If your students enjoyed this book...

- 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.