

Blizzard

A RIF GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

Themes: Winter Weather, Problem Solving, Kindness

Book Brief: What would you do if it snowed for two whole days and you woke up to snow piled up past your front door? In this book, the author takes you on a journey back to when it snowed forty feet in his Rhode Island town in 1978. No school, no snow plows,

and lots and lots of snow. It's a chilly read!

**Author and
Illustrator:**
John Rocco



TIME TO READ!



Before reading, make predictions: What is a blizzard? What do you think the boy on the cover is going to do in all that snow? Do you think he will go to school? Why or why not?

While reading, make connections: Have you ever

seen a blizzard? How about a big snowfall? What are some things you like to do when it snows? If it doesn't snow where you live, can you think of other

types of dangerous weather? How does your family react when there's dangerous weather like a hurricane or a tornado?

After reading, ask questions:

- ◆ How many days did it take for the snowplows to plow the back streets?
- ◆ Why was the book the boy was reading important?
- ◆ What would you do if you were trapped by lots of snow?
- ◆ What items would you want to have in a blizzard?



RELATED ACTIVITIES

SNOW DOUGH

Materials: hair conditioner, baking soda, bowl

Want to play with snow but there is none falling from the sky? Create your own snow dough by combining 1/2 cup hair conditioner with 3 cups baking soda in a medium bowl. Mix until combined. The texture will be similar to that of a winter snowfall. What will you make with your snow dough?

MAP IT!

Materials: paper, markers or crayons

This book has a terrific fold-out map of the boy's neighborhood. Create a map of your neighborhood. Try to use your own memory and look up a map online to help you if you get stuck. What might you

stop and do at various places on the map? Be sure to mark your house!

HOT CHOCOLATE WITH MILK

Ingredients: 1/4 cup unsweetened cocoa powder, 1/2 cup sugar, 1/3 cup hot water, 1/8 tsp. salt, 4 cups milk, 1 tsp. vanilla

With an adult's help, combine the cocoa, sugar, water, and salt in a small saucepan over medium heat. Stir constantly until the mixture begins to boil. Cook while stirring for one minute. Stir in milk until blended. Do not let this mixture boil! Remove from heat; add vanilla and stir well. Your hot chocolate with milk is ready to drink!

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



OTHER BOOKS BY THIS AUTHOR

Blackout (2011)
Moonpowder (2008)
Wolf! Wolf! (2007)



Reading Is
Fundamental