



EXTEND THE LEARNING



Read *Bully Bean*

Before reading, you might:

- Let children know this story is about a bully. Encourage them to share personal experiences they have had with a person who deliberately tries to hurt others. Have children talk about specific things the person did or said and how it made them feel. If appropriate, make a word web. Write the word *bully* in the center circle. Then list related words around the center circle that help to define the word.
- Read the title and briefly discuss details in the cover illustration. Browse through the first few pages. Help children set a purpose for reading, such as *I want to find out how Lima Bear might handle a situation with a bully.*
- *Let's read Bully Bean to find out what happens between Lima Bear and Bully Bean.*

During reading, stop and ask children questions to make sure they are following along. Take time to talk about details in the illustrations to help children understand story concepts and unfamiliar vocabulary. Ask questions such as:

- (page 1) *Bully Bean likes to tease and torment the other beans. What do you think torment means? Tell me about a time when someone tormented you. How did it make you feel? What did you do?*
- (page 4) *How does the illustration help you understand that Bully Bean is mean?*
- (page 6) *Can you recall how Lima Bear and the other beans get into the cave? Who can find the cave opening in this illustration? What words would you use to describe the cave opening?*
- (pages 12-13) *What happens after the rock traps Bully Bean? How does this affect the story's plot? What do you think Lima Bear will do next?*
- (page 13) *Can you fill in the missing word? Lima Bear quickly found the small bean-sized opening and _____ out of the cave.*

- (page 15) *Why do you think Lima Bear returns with the other beans to save Bully Bean? Would you help Bully Bean? Why or why not?*
- (page 16) *The strongest beans shinnied up the rope. What do you think shinnied means? Can you think of another word that means almost the same thing?*

After reading, take time to talk about the book. You might ask:

- *Tell me what this story is mostly about.*
- *What did you like most about this story?*
- *What words would you use to describe Bully Bean? What would you do if you saw someone being bullied by Bully Bean? Explain your thinking.*
- Write the following words on the board: tease, torment, bully, mean. *Say: Tell me the meanings of each of these words. How do you think these words go together?* Then have children select a word to use orally in a sentence.
- Let's look for details in the story that help you visualize Bully Bean.
- Locate parts of the story that describe how the other beans save Lima Bear from Bully Bean. *Ask: What are some other ways the beans could have helped Lima Bear here?*
- *Lima Bear liked to explore the cave. It was an underground fantasyland. Can you recall specific details that helped you visualize what the cave looked like?*
- Reread the story aloud as a reader's theatre presentation. Take turns reading the narrative text and the rhyming refrains. Talk about ways to change the tone or speed of your voice to make the reading more dramatic. For example, direct children to read lines in the rhyming refrain fast and slow or loud and soft. Have them look for places to pause or to put more emphasis on a particular word (*All the beans ran <pause> in fear.*).

