



# Thinksheet

Rising 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

## The Squirrels Who Squabbled By Rachel Bright

**Before Reading:** Have your student look at the front and back cover of the book and make predictions about the story. Read the title together. Does your student know the meaning of each of the words?

(Clue: The definition of “squabbled” is to argue about something that isn’t really important.)

**During Reading:** Throughout the reading, pause and build comprehension, or understanding, by asking your student questions about what they read.

- What is the setting of the story, or where does it take place? In what time of year does it take place? What do you read in the text or see in the illustrations that makes you think so?
- At the beginning of the story, what problem does Cyril have? What has been Bruce been doing to prepare for winter? How are the characters Cyril and Bruce alike? How are they different?
- What lesson do Cyril and Bruce learn in the last pages of the story?

**Be a Sound Detective!** Listen carefully to the story and **record pairs of rhyming words** on this chart.

(Clue: Rhyming words end with the same sound.) Continue to practice listening for rhyming words in other stories!

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <i>ex: fast, last</i> |  |
|                       |  |
|                       |  |

**After Reading:** Ask questions that encourage them to make connections to their lives, other books, and the world.

- Review the story and examine the facial expressions of the squirrels. Can you tell what they might be thinking? How do the illustrations show these feelings?
- On final pages, which foods do you see that squirrels might really eat? Which foods would they not eat?
- Why do the animals gather food for the winter? Why is this necessary?



These resources were prepared by GELF’s Educator Advisory Council, a group of 28 Tennessee educators, to encourage engagement with the K-3 Home Library books distributed to students over the summer.

Access more resources at [BookersBookClub.org/Activities](http://BookersBookClub.org/Activities)





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**Reading Response: What Would You Do?** If you were a squirrel preparing for winter, would you rather be like “Spontaneous Cyril” or “Plan-Ahead Bruce?” Why? Draw and write what you would do:

A large, empty rounded rectangle with a black outline, intended for a student to draw their response to the reading response question.

**If I were a squirrel preparing for winter,**

**I would...** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Extension at Home:

**Visit the Squirrels’ Habitat: Go on a Nature Walk!** Discuss the things you see in your own yard or near your home that are similar to those you see in the story, such as trees, pinecones, rocks, and animals.

**Creation Station:** While outside, collect small leaves, twigs, pebbles, and other items to make a picture of the outdoors. Paste these items on a piece of paper, or create a display, and write about what was created.



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