Henry and Mudge and the Big Sleepover
by Cynthia Rylant

THEME Creative Ideas
Children read about a sleepover with a creative twist. It helps children explore the Big Question: What does it mean to be creative?

This book will help build children’s understanding of friendships and community.

Genre Realistic fiction has characters, settings, and events that seem real but are made up by the author.

SUMMARY
Henry’s friend Patrick invites his friends AND their dogs to a sleepover. Children can read this easy chapter book to find out about the activities that Henry and his dog Mudge participate in at the sleepover.

Other Books by Cynthia Rylant
• Henry and Mudge and the Funny Lunch
• Scarecrow

SNEAK PREVIEW
Match Children and Books
This book will appeal to children who
• like to read about animals
• enjoy funny stories
• enjoy the Henry and Mudge series

Comprehension Skills and Strategies
• prior knowledge
• sequence
• ask questions
• draw conclusions
• background knowledge
• critical thinking

Vocabulary Strategy
• word structure (compound words)
How to Use the Book
Children may work independently, as partners, or in small groups.

Before Reading

BUILD BACKGROUND
Talk with children about pets and activities that people do with their pets. Display the cover of Henry and Mudge and the Big Sleepover and read the title. Ask children if they notice anything unusual about the illustration. Then ask children if they have ever been on a sleepover. Ask: What did you do at the sleepover? Turn to the table of contents of this chapter book and read the four chapter titles. Ask children to tell what they think those chapters will tell about a sleepover.

Children can use Student Practice Page 5 to plan a sleepover party that they might like to have. After reading, they can compare their party plans to Henry’s.

INTRODUCE VOCABULARY
Use Student Practice Page 6 to introduce vocabulary or to assess children’s understanding of the words before they read. If necessary, provide additional practice with the words. For example, ask children to say or write a new sentence for each word.

Reading the Book

COMPREHENSION SKILL Sequence
On Student Practice Page 7, children put story events in order. Review with children what they have learned about sequence.
- Sequence is the order of events in a story—what happens first, what happens next, and what happens last.
- Dates, times, and words such as next, then, and yesterday are clues to a sequence of events.
**COMPREHENSION STRATEGY**  
**Ask Questions**
Remind children that good readers often ask themselves questions as they read. Asking questions is a good way for readers to make sure they understand what is happening and why it is happening.

**Reader Response**
See Teacher’s Guide Page 7 for a possible response to these questions: “Look back at the pictures in Henry and Mudge and the Big Sleepover. Which of the six dogs at the sleepover would be the best pet for you? Why?”

**COMPREHENSION SKILL**  
**Draw Conclusions**
On Student Practice Page 8, children draw conclusions about events that take place in the story. Review with children what they have learned about drawing conclusions.
- A conclusion is a decision you make about something after thinking about what you have read.
- You can use what you already know about a topic to help you draw conclusions.
- Your conclusions should make sense and be supported by what you have read.

**COMPREHENSION STRATEGY**  
**Background Knowledge**
Remind children that good readers use what they already know to help them understand what they read. Discuss with children what they know about dogs and any experience they have had with sleepovers.

**Reader Response**
See Teacher’s Guide Page 8 for a possible response to these questions: “Look at the illustrations in ‘Bouncy’ and ‘Giant Lizards.’ Would you prefer to play in the living room or the attic? Why?”
After Reading

COMPREHENSION CHECK

1. **What is unusual about Patrick’s sleepover party?** It is unusual to have dogs at a sleepover. (Draw Conclusions)

2. **Why couldn’t the boys play the bowling game?** The bulldog kept taking the pins. (Cause and Effect)

3. **How are Mudge and the poodle alike? How are they different?** They both can catch popcorn. The poodle can do backflips, and Mudge can’t. Mudge can eat a bowl of popcorn in one bite and the poodle can’t. (Compare and Contrast)

4. **What did the boys do after they turned out the lights and got in their sleeping bags?** They boys made silly shadows on the wall. (Sequence)

5. **Why did Mudge have his own sleeping bag?** He was too big to fit in Henry’s bag. (Cause and Effect)

CRITICAL THINKING

1. **What problems could arise if people really brought their dogs to a sleepover?** Possible response: Some dogs might not get along, and they might fight. Some dogs might bite if they got excited or frightened. Dogs might bark a lot or howl and bother neighbors. (Analyzing)

2. **What would be fun about attending Patrick’s sleepover? What would you not enjoy?** Possible response: I would enjoy the food and games. I would not enjoy the dogs because I am allergic to dogs. (Evaluating)

ASSESSMENT

Use the Selection Test on Student Practice Page 9 to assess children’s understanding of the book. See Teacher’s Guide Page 9 for answers.
Plan a Sleepover

Look at each box. Make plans for a sleepover.

Guests should bring

Responses will vary.

Food I will serve

Responses will vary.

Activities for the party

Responses will vary.
Words to Know

Match the words and clues to solve the puzzle.

sleepover  flashlight  knickknacks  enormous  backflips

Across

3. little decorations
4. a hand-held light
5. a party that lasts overnight

Down

1. acrobats do these tricks
2. very big

A compound word is a word made from two smaller words. Write a word from above that is a compound word.

6. sleepover, flashlight, knickknacks, backflips
What Happens When?

- **Sequence** is the order of events in a story, from first to last.

**Read** the story events of *Henry and Mudge and the Big Sleepover* below. **Number** them from 1 to 7 to show the correct order of events.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Patrick invites Henry and Mudge to a sleepover.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Boys and dogs bounce around the living room.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Patrick’s dad takes the boys and dogs to the attic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>The boys play games.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>The boys eat pizza and watch monster movies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>The boys and dogs get in their sleeping bags and make shadow figures with their flashlights.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Everyone falls asleep.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Reader Response**  **Text to Self**

8. Look back at the pictures in *Henry and Mudge and the Big Sleepover*. Which of the six dogs at the sleepover would be the best pet for you? Why?

**Responses will vary.**
What Can You Conclude?

- A conclusion is a decision you make after thinking about what you have read.
- You can use what you already know to help you draw conclusions.

1. Why did “bouncy” boys and “bouncy” dogs make Patrick’s parents nervous?
   
   Possible response: The boys and dogs might break some knickknacks.

2. Why did Patrick’s parents plan for the sleepover to be in the attic?
   
   Possible response: There was a lot of room and there was nothing breakable up there.

3. Why was Patrick’s sleepover party fun for everyone?
   
   Possible response: They played games, ate good snacks, and had fun with their friends and their dogs.

Reader Response  Text to Self

4. Look at the illustrations in “Bouncy” and “Giant Lizards.” Would you prefer to play in the living room or the attic? Why?

Responses will vary
Selection Test

Mark the space with your answer.

1. Who hosted a sleepover party?
   - [ ] Henry and Mudge
   - [ ] Henry’s mother and father
   - [☒] Patrick

2. Why was the sleepover party in the attic?
   - [☒] There was nothing to break there.
   - [ ] The living room was too small.
   - [ ] It had lots of knickknacks.

3. Which activity did the boys do first?
   - [ ] watched monster movies
   - [ ] played games
   - [ ] ate pizza

4. Which dog won the popcorn contest?
   - [ ] the bulldog
   - [ ] Mudge
   - [☒] the poodle

5. Why was Mudge the best dog at the party?
   - [☒] He let all the dogs sleep in his sleeping bag.
   - [ ] He did backflips as he caught popcorn.
   - [ ] He had his own sleeping bag.