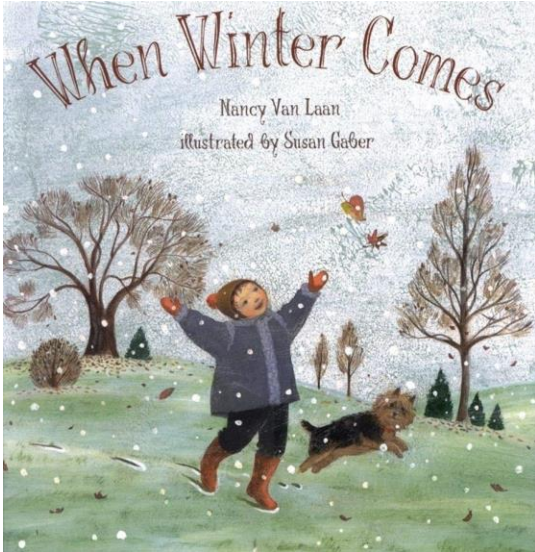


Discussion Guide for Families



When Winter Comes

Author: Nancy Van Laan

Illustrator: Susan Gaber

Themes: Environment and Sustainability

Book Brief: Where oh where do the leaves all go when winter comes and the cold winds blow? What happens to fish, flowers, field mice, and other living things when ponds freeze and the air turns blustery? Walk with a curious child and his parents as winter's first snow falls and find out....

READ ALOUD

Before Reading: Build Background

- Ask your child “What do you think happens to plants and animals when it gets really cold outside? Do you think they stay in the same place or go somewhere else? Why?”

While Reading: Make Connections

- What happens to flowers when winter comes?
- Where do caterpillars go when it's cold outside?
- Why do you think birds fly south in the winter?

After Reading: Ask Questions

- At the end of the story, where does the child go? What do you think will happen when spring arrives?

RELATED ACTIVITIES

If your child enjoyed this book, consider:

- Encourage them to talk about it during other conversations.
- Check out RIF's [Sustainable Futures](#) center to learn more about sustainability with related books and resources.