

Tops & Bottoms

A RIF GUIDE FOR FAMILIES

Themes: Animals, Honesty, Problem Solving

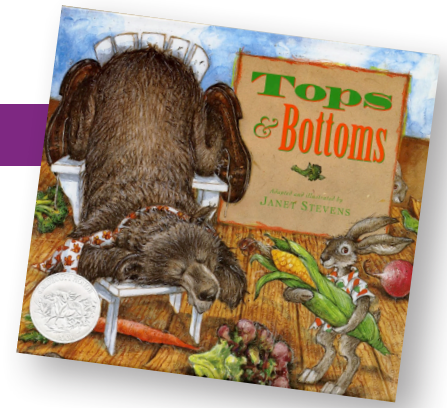
Book Brief: Once upon a time, there was a lazy Bear and a clever Hare. Read how Hare solves his family's problems by tricking rich and lazy Bear into giving up half his crops.

Author:

Janet Stevens

Illustrator:

Janet Stevens



TIME TO READ!



Before: Read the title of the story and look at the cover. Ask your child what they think will happen in the story.

During: As you read, ask, “How does Hare help Bear? How does Hare trick Bear?”

After, ask questions:

- Do you think Hare was helping Bear? Why or why not?
- What did Bear learn?
- What do you think Bear will do next time? Why do you think that?

INTENTIONAL TALK

Language Awareness means “talking like a book.” When children hear stories read aloud many times they often remember patterned language, both the words that are said and the tone and rhythm with which they are read. Children will often repeat favorite phrases or pages from memory. This is much more than memorization, it is a way for

children to internalize the way stories should sound when they are read. *Tops & Bottoms* contains a repeated phrase that is important to the story (“Bear slept as the crops grew.”) Encourage your child to say this phrase along with you, or even say it themselves as you read over and over again.

RELATED ACTIVITIES

Tops, Middles, and Bottoms

Grab fruits and vegetables around the house or look at photos in books or online. Discuss the top, middle, and bottom of each fruit and vegetable. Ask your child, “Which part of the fruit/vegetable do you eat? How do you think it grows in the ground?” Discuss why they think fruits and vegetables grow differently.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



OTHER BOOKS BY JANET STEVENS

- **Little Good Wolf (2022)**
- **Wild about Us! (2015)**
- **And The Dish Ran Away With The Spoon (2001)**