

# KIDS BOOK CLUB

## READING TIPS AND ACTIVITIES

**Jumpstart**  
Children first.®

Reading with children can improve their language, literacy, and social-emotional skills, increasing their knowledge of the world around them. With the right book choices, reading can introduce children to healthy eating habits too!



### THE BEASTLY FEAST by Bruce Goldstone

#### What It's All About

Vibrant, colorful animals come together for a potluck of delightful rhyming foods!



#### Discover a World of Words

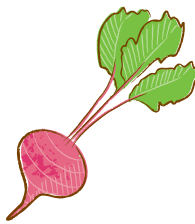
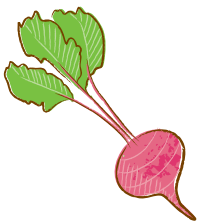
Throughout the story introduce new vocabulary words using gestures, tone of voice, pointing to illustrations, or providing brief explanations. Examples include:

- *Feast*: a fancy meal
- *Knishes*: an eastern European dumpling
- *Bouquet*: a bunch of picked flowers

#### Dig into the Story

Develop children's comprehension of the story by discussing higher-level information (e.g., link characters' feelings to their actions and/or events in the story, predict what might happen, or summarize chunks of text). Use prompts throughout the story, such as:

- *Look at all of the creative ways that animals carry foods to the feast!*
- *The animals are filling up on so many foods and getting sillier the more they eat.*
- *What might the beasts do when they wake up from their nap?*



#### Make Connections Beyond the Book

- After reading the story, continue building children's knowledge by thinking of other beasts that could come to this feast. What foods or items would they bring?



**Jumpstart**

Jumpstart is a national early education organization working toward the day every child in America enters kindergarten prepared to succeed. Learn more at [jstart.org](http://jstart.org).

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Some definitions taken from Biemiller, A. (2010). *Words worth teaching: Closing the vocabulary gap*.

## Together Time Activity

### MAKE-A-FEAST CARD GAME

This simple homemade card game lets two or more players work together to plan a make-believe feast.

**Supplies:** paper, index cards (one card to represent each dish served), pen, or pencil

**1** Pretend your family/friends are planning your own potluck feast. How many guests will you invite and how much food should each person bring? Will your meal be a buffet or a sit-down dinner? Does your feast have a theme that would influence the kinds of foods people should bring? Talk about all the different foods that make up a feast. Determine how many appetizers, salads, soups, main dishes, side dishes, drinks, desserts, etc. you want and write a list.

**2** Make the game cards. Using your list as a guide, make one card for each dish being brought to your feast. Label each card, for example, “appetizer” or “side dish” or “salad” on one side and leave the other side blank.

**3** Deal the cards. If all the guests are playing the game, give each player one card. If fewer people are playing, go ahead and deal out all the cards so each player has an equal share of cards.

**4** Each player decides what to bring! Without showing the other players, write something on the blank side of each card that matches the meal part assigned to you. Be specific. Examples: On an appetizer card one might write “veggie tray with hummus dip” or on a salad card “crunchy lettuce with apples and walnuts” or for dessert “banana bread.” Be creative and also think about what the other guests might like.

**5** Reveal the feast. When all the players have finished their cards, have everyone place them face up on the table at once to see what’s being served at your feast! How did it turn out?



### Talking Points:

Do the foods served at your feast go well together? Is there enough variety? Is there a rainbow of colors? Are there enough healthy choices? How will everyone feel after eating this feast? Would anyone like to change what they thought to bring based on what other people are bringing? Try another round and feel free to keep going until your group comes up with a meal that you actually want to cook!