

## Introduce the book and word list

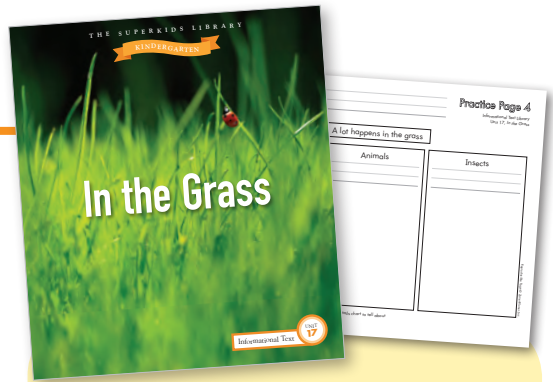
Read the title aloud with children. Explain that this informational book is about different kinds of animals you can find in the grass. Ask what is shown crawling in the grass in the picture on the cover. (*a ladybug, an insect*) Have children name other kinds of animals that could be found in the grass and that they might read about in the book.

On the word list, read the Story Words aloud and have children repeat them. Read the other words with children. Explain that **scram** means to run away really fast. Discuss what an **insect** is. (*a kind of animal that's very small, has six legs, and may have wings*)

## Guide reading as needed

Listen and give support as individuals read the book aloud in a small group. Pause every few pages to ask comprehension questions.

**Page 3** What are the animals on pages 2–3 all doing in the grass? hunting What has the robin caught to eat? a worm What is the snake hunting? a frog (Connect ideas: Compare and contrast)



**Key vocabulary:** scam, insect, tunnel, flit, hum, stem

**Page 5** What is the frog doing in the grass on page 4? hiding, sitting still Why? so it won't be seen and eaten by the snake How do we know the snake doesn't catch the frog? Page 5 says the snake has slid on. It moves away from where the frog is. (Connect ideas; draw conclusions)

**Page 7** What kind of animals are nesting or sleeping in a nest on page 6? rabbits What does page 7 say animals do in the grass? dig What kind of animal is shown digging? a mole [Provide the answer if needed.] (Understand vocabulary and picture-text relationships)

**Page 9** What does it mean when animals tunnel in the grass? They dig tunnels or paths underground. [Explain that the animal on page 9 is a kind of gopher.] (Understand vocabulary)

**Page 11** On page 10, it says insects *flit*, which means they move or fly quickly from one place to another. Which word on page 11 names a kind of buzzing sound insects make? *hum* What word names a part of a plant where a bug might lay its eggs? *stem* (Understand vocabulary)

**Page 13** What do the animals do when the kid comes? They scam or run, fly, and hop away. Why do you think they leave quickly? They're afraid. A kid could hurt them. (Connect ideas: Cause and effect)

### Discuss the book after reading it

1. **What is the main topic this book is all about?** animals living in the grass and things they do there **What are some things the book says different animals do in the grass?** Answers should be animals and activities mentioned in the text. (Identify the main topic; retell key details)
2. **Do you like to rest in the soft grass like the kid at the end of the book? Why or why not? What are other things you like to do in the grass?** Answers will vary, but opinions should be supported with reasons. (Give and support opinions; connect text to self)

### Focus on main ideas and details

Tell children that a *main idea* is what a few pages or part of an informational text is about. Have children turn to pages 2–3 of *In the Grass*. Point out that the main idea of these pages is that animals hunt in the grass. Ask what the pages show and tell us about animals that hunt in the grass. (*A cat, bird, and snake are animals that hunt in the grass. A bird may hunt worms, and a snake may hunt frogs.*) Explain that those smaller pieces of information are the details that help us understand the main idea. Then help children identify the main idea of pages 10 and 11. (*The grass has lots of insects.*) Ask them to name details from the page about what insects do in the grass. (*flit, sit, hunt, hum, lay eggs*)

### Independent Activities

- Have children reread the book several times for fluency practice.
- On Practice Page 4, have children write and draw to complete the main ideas and details chart.
- Have partners or small groups play 20 Questions. One player should pick an animal from the book. The other(s) should ask *yes/no* questions (*Does it hunt? Does it dig?*) to guess the animal.