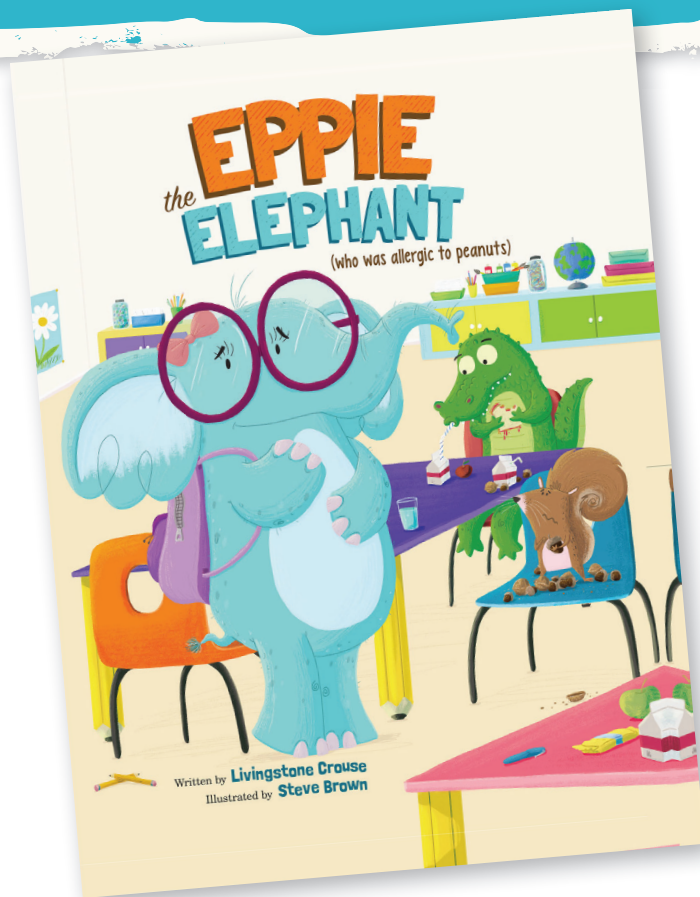


# Reading Guide!

# EPPIE, the ELEPHANT

(Who Was Allergic to Peanuts)



## Let's Talk About the Story

- Open the book to any spread (two pages). Ask children to identify the most important thing that happens on these two pages.
- The main character is the focus of the story. Ask children the following questions: Who is this story about? What is that character's name? What is that character like? How do you know?
- Secondary characters populate a story's world and help to move the story along. Ask children to name three secondary characters in this book.
- The conflict is the main problem a story's characters have to overcome. What is the conflict in this story?
- Ask children to describe how Eppie feels at the beginning of the story and how she feels at the end of the story. Does she feel differently or the same? Why do you think her feelings changed?

## Activities

1. Ask children to choose two characters from the story and draw them. Kids should include details from the book in their drawings to identify the characters, but they should not include any names. Next, have each child present and describe their characters to the class, again using no character names. Can the other children identify who the characters are?
2. Make an Eppie bookmark. Using construction paper and markers, children should create their own bookmarks and decorate them with drawings or words that relate to the story.
3. Have children draw two pictures: One should illustrate how Eppie feels when her teacher makes her move to the peanut-free table without her friends. The second should show how the child could help Eppie during this predicament.
4. Character traits tell us what a story's character is like (e.g., friendly, helpful, young, funny, etc.). Have children choose any character from this story and make a list of his or her character traits.
5. Create a reading comprehension ball. Blow up a plastic beach ball, and in each of the six different colored sections, use a marker to write a question (e.g., Where does this story take place? Why does the main character make the choices he or she does? When does this story take place? How does the story end? Who is the main character? What is your favorite part of this story?). Read Eppie's story to the children. After the story is complete, toss the ball to the first child. The child should catch the ball and answer the question in the section where his or her right hand lands. Then, that child should toss the ball to the second child, who does the same. Go around the room until everyone has had a chance to answer a question.

