

## ***Don't Drop Hop* Resource Material**

### ***Don't Drop Hop* Overview**

*Don't Drop Hop* is a 32-page fiction picture book with 208 words.

The book is designed to be read aloud to pre-readers (ages 1-7), but the text is simple and emerging readers (ages 4-8) will enjoy reading independently.

**Genre:** preschool picture book

**Synopsis:** *Don't Drop Hop* tells the story of Elsie and her favorite stuffed bunny, Hop. Everywhere that Elsie goes, Hop goes, too. When Mom says they must go into the city, Elsie insists on taking Hop along. As the family travels via car, train, and taxi, Mom and Dad repeatedly caution, "Don't drop Hop," but Elsie, in her excitement, neglects to hold on tight. Over and over, Hop gets dropped. When he is dropped in a taxi cab, Elsie must go home without him. However, the story ends happily with Hop being delivered to their house in a box and Elsie reunited with her best friend.

*Don't Drop Hop* is written in a simple, easy-reader style that appeals to the youngest learners. The engaging watercolor artwork helps bring the story alive. *Don't Drop Hop* is sure to become a bedtime and classroom favorite.

**Key Words:** friend, bunny, rabbit, favorite, missing, city

The following pages provide additional resources for extended learning. The suggested questions and topics can be used to help guide classroom lessons, homeschool learning, and/or family discussion.



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### **A. Social/Emotional Learning**

- **Friendship**

1. Do you have a stuffed friend who is very special to you?
2. What is your friend's name? Where and when did you get that friend?
3. Have you ever lost your stuffed friend? What did that feel like?
4. Did you find your lost friend? And how did that feel?
5. What do you like to do with your stuffed friend?
6. Do you take your stuffed friend everywhere with you, the way Elsie takes Hop?

- **Obedience**

1. In what way does Elsie obey her parents?
2. Do you think it is difficult for her to obey? Why?
3. What do you think you would have done if you were in Elsie's position?

### **B. Literary Elements**

- **Characters**

1. How many characters are in the story? Can you name them?  
*(there are four: Elsie, Hop, Mommy, Daddy)*
2. Which of these describing words apply to Elsie? To Hop? To the parents?  
*(happy, tall, big, small, cuddly, tired, lost, scared, sad, patient, relieved, messy)*  
*Elsie: sad, happy, relieved, messy*  
*Mommy and Daddy: patient, relieved, sad, happy, tall*  
*Hop: small, cuddly, lost*

- **Plot**

1. What is the problem in the story?  
*(Elsie drops Hop and eventually leaves him behind)*
2. Who solves the problem?  
*(Mom or Dad)*
3. What is the resolution of the problem?  
*(Hop is delivered to their house after Mom calls Lost and Found)*

- **Setting**

1. Where does this story take place?  
*(in Elsie's house, on a train, in the city)*

- **Theme**

1. What is the main idea of the story?  
*(a beloved stuffed friend is important;  
sometimes we have to do something we don't like)*



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### **C. Elements of Grammar**

1. Verbs - Explain that a verb usually shows action - something that we can do. Have the children find as many different verbs as they can while you read the story.  
(here is a partial list: *go, come, drop, zip, lock, run, park, hold, cross, buy, climb, find, look, exit, walk, see, ride, watch, stop*)

Find the two- verb combinations in the story: *will come, will go, get ready*

2. Prepositional phrases - answer the question Where?  
*to the city, in the grass, in the puddle, onto the train, on the step, across the bridge, at the train station*
3. Capitalization - Names begin with an uppercase letter: *Elsie, Hop, Mommy, Daddy*
4. Punctuation-  
exclamation point - shows excitement *Oh, no! Poor Hop!*
5. Contractions with verbs - when two words are bumped together, some letters pop out. An apostrophe takes the place of the missing letters or letters  
*don't = do not*

### **D. Extend the Learning**

1. Ask the children to name the different forms of transportation found in this story. Ask the children which of these they have already ridden in. Allow time for them to tell their transportation stories.
2. Urban vs. rural/ city vs. small town  
Explain the difference. Ask the children which area they live in. Assess any previous experience with the other area. Allow time for children to tell their stories about being in a city or being in a small town or countryside.
3. Problem solving - Ask the children for suggestions of what to do when they lose something. Ask the children for suggestions on how they can avoid losing something.