

There's a Mouse about the House

By Richard Fowler E.D.C. Publishing (January 1, 1984)
Available on Amazon, Alibris and other book sellers

Suggested Grade and Interest Level: Pre-K through first

Topic Exploration: animals, concepts (through, up, down, under, out)

Interactive features: This book has a cardboard mouse which slips through the cracks under doors and such. Children push the durable, laminated mouse with a string tail through the slot holes in each page, run it along the dotted trail, push it out the back cover, and go back to the front cover to start all over.

A mouse runs through Mr. and Mrs. B's house looking for some food. He avoids the cat, learns that the other mice have already the foods he is looking for, has his presence given away by the parrot, scares Mrs. B. in her bed, runs un Mr. B's nightshirt, and finally escapes the cat who is camped out by the cheese. It's cute and fun!

Skill Builders: Concepts: through (a crack in the floor), up (a table leg and stairs), under (the bed), through (the door.) **Vocabulary:** starving/hungry, parrot, nightshirt, titles (Mr. and Mrs.), mouse hole.

Sentence/grammatical: "there's a ..."
Fine motor movement: making the mouse follow the dotted line and slipping it in and out of the cracks.

Method: Be sure to read the title each time you read the book. This is a good turns-taking book if there is more than one children reading it with you. One feeds the mouse through, the other pulls it out the other side and slips the mouse into the next crack.

This is one book the children ask for again and again. It's a great rapport builder.

Additional tip: I create vocabulary coloring sheets to send home for the children to use to discuss the books. They include the title of the book, the author and the intended word to be learned.

By Cheryll Nelson Union Grove, Wisconsin