



D.E.A.R.

SIZING UP A BOOK

Sizing up a book or thinking about the story before you read it is always a good practice. Before reading *Henry Huggins* by Beverly Cleary, see if you can predict the ideas and themes you will encounter in the novel by completing this activity. Read the set of word clues below from chapter 1, “Henry and Ribsy,” to get a first impression of the story. Then, working with a partner, compose an original story using the word clues provided. Next, read your story aloud and compare and contrast your interpretation with other students’ stories. *Size up* this book by predicting what life is going to be like for Henry with his new companion, Ribsy.



WORD CLUES

My STORY IMPRESSION

Henry Huggins

Wednesday after school

hungry, skinny old dog

mother’s permission

bus ride

shopping bag, string, and paper

crackle, crackle, crackle

thump, thump, thump

Scooter

E-e-ek! A dog!

bag of apples

pots and pans

garden hose

Skree-e-etch

passengers were laughing

squad car

police siren

Klickitat Street

Henry’s mother and father standing on porch

Ribsy

CCSS – W. 4.3 Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear sequences. Prepared by Mary VandeWater, Professor of Reading and Basic Education, Nassau Community College, Garden City, NY.

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