



The Mitten

By Jan Brett

Click on the link: <https://www.janbrett.com> for activity ideas and materials to enjoy this book. Jan Brett has many printables for personal use but does not give out general permissions to include these materials on secondary websites.

Two favorites under the **Activities Tab** Index:

- **Put the Animals in the Mitten** coloring/activity page
Have your child color the animals and decorate the mitten. If your child is an early artist, using dot markers sometimes gives quicker satisfaction and might hold the child's interest longer—practice identifying animals by their names and sounds that they make. Cut out the animals. To build visual perception skills, use a sharpie to draw a line along the edge of one mitten's underside. Your child can practice following that line as he puts glue on. Tell the story, with your child placing the animals into the mitten, and do not forget to demonstrate the animal explosion at the end!
- **Masks**
These are really gorgeous masks, using the artwork of Jan Brett. Have your child pick his or her favorite mask. Cut it out. Let your child color with markers or paints. Follow the directions to finish the masks. Get the whole family involved and act out the story. Crawl into two sleeping bags zipped together, or use a blanket to simulate the mitten!

There are also some fun video book readings by the author, with other books she has written. Check out: *Cozy*, another winter story in a similar format as *The Mitten*.

Take advantage of the side panels of the book, which create a visual to share with your child in anticipating the next move. Be animated, exaggerate the questions, "I wonder who is coming next? Will he fit in the mitten?"

Tips for reading to toddlers

- Adapt the story to your child's attention span.
 - You can skip pages and not read all the words.
 - Talk about a few key things in the middle and the end; that is a successful book reading.
- Think about ways to interact with the book beyond the pages.
 - Make sounds for animals or vehicles. Use exclamations!
 - Be animated and silly.
 - This story is wonderful to be acted out. Imitating the tickle from the mouse, which leads to the ah-choo – a hilarious way to celebrate the book over and over!!!
- Please put the book down, use items or (any) stuffed animals, etc., to act out a story.