



Ruby Valentine Saves the Day

By Laurie Friedman, Illustrated by Lynne Avril

On Ruby's favorite day of the year, she and Lovebird are planning a party for everyone in Heartland. But an unexpected snowstorm threatens to ruin their party plans. Will Ruby save the day or will the people of Heartland be unable to celebrate Valentine's Day?

READ

Before: Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, *what do you think this story is about?* Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an "I wonder" statement based on the cover illustration.

I wonder where Ruby and Lovebird are going on their sled?

During: Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end. Point out "rare words" (e.g., those words that are not commonly used in every day conversation) and help the children relate the meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

Rare Words

- township - a small town or village
- settled - to move in to a new place
- hesitation - to be unsure or to put off something for a later time
- invitation - the written or spoken form in which a person is invited
- RSVP - used on an invitation to indicate that a reply is requested
- affection - a strong attachment, love
- perfection - the highest quality of excellence
- scoured - to clean and remove dirt
- nook - a corner in a room
- thermometer - a tool that measures the temperature
- neglected - to fail to pay attention to
- despair - to lose hope or give up
- amidst - to be in the middle of, surrounded by
- horrified - to be in great shock
- bare - without the usual contents
- nonsense - words having little or no sense or meaning

After: Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- What did Ruby and Lovebird plan for Valentine's Day?
- Who did Ruby make the invitation for?
- If you were planning a party, what would you do to prepare?
- Do you help out with cleaning at your home?
- What do we celebrate on Valentine's Day?
- How will you celebrate Valentine's Day?



DO

Make a Valentine Invitation Postcard

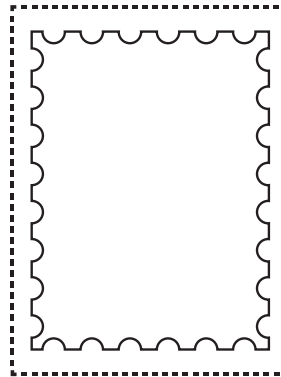
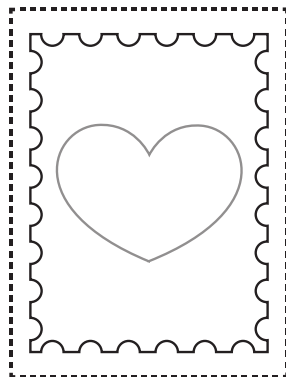
Ruby and Lovebird had a great time making and sending invitations. Have your class design and make their own Valentine's Day party invitation using the template below.

Materials:

- Crayons, markers, pencils
- Scissors
- Scotch tape/Glue

To: _____

Color and cut out a
stamp for your
postcard



Or design your own
stamp!

