



School-Home Connection

Your child is reading an excerpt from “My Side of the Mountain,” a novel by Jean Craighead George. First published in 1959, “My Side of the Mountain” is the story of a boy who leaves New York City for the wilds of the Catskill Mountains. Sam Gibley is a clever, resourceful, and determined boy who learns to trust himself and nature as he lives off the land with very few supplies and no adult help. Your child might benefit from discussing the story with you. He or she may also enjoy working with you on one or more of the following activities, which provide opportunities to develop language skills.

My Side of the Story

Ask your child to retell the selection to a sibling or to you. Ask questions such as these: *What did you like the most about his story? What did you like the least? What would you do if you were Sam? If you were Sam’s parents?*

Vocabulary

Vocabulary Match

Have your child create a vocabulary matching game by writing the following new vocabulary words on index cards and the definitions on separate cards.

migration the periodic passage from one region or climate to another

edible fit to be eaten

foundation the base or substructure of a building

nourishing giving nutrition

remote out-of-the-way; distant

cavity a hollowed out space

discouraging disheartening

Balanced Diet

Sam spends a lot of time looking for food in the wild. Talk with your child about how important a balanced diet is. You might refer to a food pyramid chart on a breakfast cereal box. Ask your child to make a chart of everything he or she eats for one week. Help your child place each item in one of the food pyramid categories. Discuss what foods may be missing and what could be cut back in your child’s diet.



TIME TO READ

Encourage your child to read for at least 30 minutes outside of class each day.

