

Track that Scat!

A RIF GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

Themes: Animals, Tracking, Nature

Book Brief: As Finn and her dog Skeeter venture through the woods, they discover which animals are close by from the scat left behind. Finn's new boots take home the evidence!

Author:

Lisa Morlock

Illustrator: Carrie Anne Bradshaw

Content Connections:

Science, Social Studies, Art



TIME TO READ!

BEFORE WE READ, LET'S LOOK AT...

The Cover: What can you infer about this story based on the cover illustration?

The Pictures: Based on the pictures, what do you think scat might be?

Prior Knowledge: Explain that the word *scat* has many meanings. Give students examples of its

multiple uses, found at the front of the book.

Vocabulary: scat, rye, shrew

Purpose for Reading: "As we read this story, think about how the word clues the author uses help you to create mental images before the identity of the animal is revealed."



WHILE WE READ



MONITORING COMPREHENSION

- ◆ How would you describe Skeeter?
- ◆ What traits best describe Finn?
- ◆ Do you think Finn and Skeeter have made this trip before? Explain.
- ◆ Have you ever noticed animal tracks or scat when you take a walk?

LET'S THINK ABOUT

Our Purpose: How did the author use word clues to help you create mental images during this story?

Extending Our Thinking: What are some other signs that let you know an animal has been around an area? Which animal would you most likely see in your backyard or neighborhood? Do you think Finn's mom was surprised that Finn's boots were so dirty? Explain. What signs do humans leave behind? What effects might some of these signs have on the environment? Why do you think a book about scat would be recognized by scientists as so important?

NOTE TO EDUCATORS

- ◆ Extension Activities for Educators also available.
- ◆ Vocabulary Scaffolding Sheet also available.



PROUDLY SPONSORED BY ★macy's
©2013 Reading Is Fundamental, Inc.

Reading Is
Fundamental