

# A NEW HOME FOR CHIP

By - Mary Labatt  
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 Genre - Narrative  
**Set 13 - 244 Words**

## Building Anticipation – Setting the Context

Talk about animal homes and ask the children what animal homes they know. Pair the home with the animal i.e., bird and nest etc.



## Introduction

Show students the cover and ask them to read the title. Talk about what kind of animal Chip is and what kind of home he lives in. Introduce the word *burrow*.

Give each child has a sticky note with the word STOP on it to put at the place you ask them to stop reading. Ask students to read until they find the part that tells why Chip wants a new home, and put their stop sign at that place. After reading, discuss their predictions.

Ask them to predict where they think Chip might make his home. Then read on until they find the place that tells what is wrong with Chip's new home and put their stop sign in that spot. Talk about whether the new information confirmed their prediction.

Finally, invite students to predict what will happen to Chip next. Tell them to read to the end of the story to check their predictions.

## Discussion – Book Talk

Talk about the chipmunk's winter habits. Introduce the word *hibernate*. Tell the children that unlike bears, the chipmunk does not hibernate in a deep, deep sleep. The chipmunk sleeps during the winter but at intervals it wakes up, eats some of the food it has stored under its nest and even goes outside if it is mild enough.

*Right there question:*

Find the sentence that tells what Chip is digging for himself.

*Think and search questions:*

Why do you think a burrow is the best home for a chipmunk?

Why did Chip think the bag in the picture would make a good home for him? (Bring out the humor of Chip and the chip bag).

*On your own question:*

Do you think a chipmunk would make a good pet? Why or why not?

## Responding Creatively – Independent Practice

Children can:

- dramatize the story using the readers' theater script on the reproducible master.
- make a construction paper mural of Chip's burrow in cross section. Pick grass and leaves to glue in the bottom for his bed.

## Read Aloud Connections

*A Chipmunk's Inside-Out World* (non-fiction) by Kay Cooper and Alvin Saffan, J. Messner, 1973.

*Animal Homes* (non-fiction) by Diane James, Sara Lynn and Sue Cony, Two-Can Publishers, 2000.

*Chip Chipmunk* by Dave Sargent and Pat Sargent, Ozark Publishing, 1998.

*Panic in the Woodland* by Muriel Miller, Ramboro Books, 1987.

## Learning about Language – Focused Teaching

High Frequency Words	thought, would	Find these words on the word wall and in books.
Word Families and Letter Clusters	<i>ow</i> family with the sound as in burrow - row, show, mow, throw, low, bow  Contrast with the <i>ow</i> family with the sound as in now - wow, pow, sow, cow	Make a T chart with the two lists of <i>ow</i> words.
Structural Features of Words	digging – double the final letter before adding <i>ing</i>  Apostrophe to show possession- Chip's mom.	Find and write other words that double the final consonant before adding <i>ing</i> .  Find apostrophes in class writing.
Text Features	New sentence structures - Down he went.	Rearrange sentences without changing the meaning.



# Readers' Theater

## A New Home for Chip

Characters

**Narrator, Chip, Chip's Mom.**

Narrator: *Chip was digging his burrow.*

Chip: Now I'll pick some grass to make a soft bed.

Narrator: *Chip picked grass and made a bed for his burrow.*

Chip: Yikes! It's too dark down here. I need a new home!

Mom: You need a warm burrow for winter.

Chip: A burrow is too dark! I need a new home!

Narrator: *(Holds up a picture of a chip bag)*  
*So Chip went to the park and looked for a home.*

Chip: This bag has my name on it! This is my new home!

Narrator: *Chip picked some grass and made a bed in his new home.*  
*Then it started to rain.*  
*It rained and rained. Then it snowed.*

Chip: Brrrr. I'm cold.

Mom: You must come home, Chip. It's too cold here.

Narrator: *So Chip went back to his burrow.*

Chip: My burrow is warm!  
A burrow is the best home for a chipmunk!