

Title: Three Pebbles and a Song, by Eileen Spinelli, illustrated by S. D. Schindler
Dial Books for Young Readers, 2003, ISBN 0-8037-2528-0

Synopsis: “Snow’s coming! We need food, warm things for the nest. Gathering’s best,” Mama tells Moses. So, Moses sets out to do just that. But then . . . his eye catches sight of three just-right-for-juggling pebbles, and his ears pick up the wind’s whistle-y song. Soon the snow is coming too thick and too fast, and Moses returns to his family’s nest empty-handed. . . . or does he?

Theme: Helping family, special talents, changing seasons

Author Information:

www.harperchildrens.com/authorintro/index.asp?authorid=12760

Activities:

1. Moses helps his family through the long winter in his own special way. Have your students discuss and write about how they each bring something special to their own family. They might also discuss and write how each member of their family is special in his/her own way.
2. Compare Three Pebbles and a Song to the fable “The Ant and the Grasshopper”, with a grasshopper who contributes nothing and also to Leo Lioni’s book Frederick, about a mouse who collects words and colors for the long winter.