

Bookfolio for **The Mouse and the Motorcycle**

Author: [Beverly Cleary](#)

Illustrator: Louis Darling

First Publication Date: 1965

Publisher: William Morrow

ISBN: 0688316980

Recommended for: [Grades 3-5](#)

Classification: Fiction

Genre: [Fantasy](#)

Story Summary: Ralph, a mouse, and Keith, a boy, share a common love: motorcycles! They meet in the Mountain View Inn where Ralph lives with his large family and Keith has come with his parents to spend the weekend. Ralph's adventures with Keith's toy motorcycle begin with his terrifying encounter with the dreaded vacuum cleaner and end with his heroic search for an aspirin. It is only after his recklessness puts his family in danger of poisons and traps that Ralph learns responsibility. Keith learns what it means to let go of his new friend, Ralph, and his most favorite possession, the motorcycle. He goes back to Ohio leaving his motorcycle for Ralph. "It will be fun thinking of you riding about that big old lobby...And when the teacher asks us to write a composition...I can write about meeting a brave mouse named Ralph who rode a little motorcycle."

Read-aloud Recommendation: Chapter 4, "Keith", pages 35-47

**The skills for each activity are identified by the following abbreviations:
R=Reading, W=Writing, S=Speaking, L=Listening, D=Drawing**

The Mouse and the Motorcycle - Independent Activities	Skills
1. A Scary Feeling (Writing a new adventure)	S , W
2. Powerful Words (Using action words to describe motion)	S , W
3. Hard to Believe (Writing a story from a character's point of view)	S , W
4. Book Talking (Giving a book talk)	S
5. The Mouse that Talked (Drawing a comic strip)	D
6. What about Mice? (Writing a report)	R , S , W
The Mouse and the Motorcycle - Group Activities	Skills
1. A New Book Jacket (Making a book jacket)	D , W
2. Mountain View Inn Weekly Bulletin (Writing a newspaper)	D , W
3. Pandemonium on Tape (Recording an episode)	S
4. An Interview with Matt (Interviewing a story character)	S
5. Special Weekend Package (Making a brochure)	D , W
6. "Let's Talk About..." (Discussing the story)	L , S

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