

A little story circle

Ages 4–8, with a grown-up · 10–15 minutes · Talk, draw, point or pass.

You need: these two sheets and pencils. Try it as a family, a pair or a small group. Everyone may speak, point, draw, listen or pass.

1. Listen to a beginning

A bright little leaflet arrived with the post
and landed by Toby's half-honey, half-toast.
"Our green needs a plan!" read the Mayor's new sheet.
"Bring all your ideas to the hall down the street."
"A goal!" Rosie cried. "We could practise till tea!"
"A garden!" said Maisie. "With a bench by a tree!"
"And somewhere for snacks," Toby said. "That sounds best."
Pickle kept hoping for crumbs from the rest.

Opening from The Bigger Table · Words by Joshua Hall

2. Notice and wonder

What did Rosie, Maisie or Toby hope for? Choose one idea. What would you like to ask that character?

3. Make a green together

On sheet 2, each person adds an idea for an imaginary village green. It could be a garden, a goal, a snack spot or something surprising.

Can two ideas share the space? Add a path, a quiet corner or different times to play. Leave a patch for an idea you have not had yet.

4. Keep one thing

Choose a detail or a question to remember. Passing is fine. Thank one another for listening.

Make it simpler: draw just one thing or place toys on the green.

Try more: add a sign, a speech bubble or a new visitor's idea. Your plan is your invention, not a guess at the book's ending.

Our green has room for...

Ages 4–8, with a grown-up · 10–15 minutes · Draw or tell; writing is optional.

Make an imaginary village green. Everyone can add one idea. Draw a route between two places and leave room for a thought still to come.



Our village green: draw, label or place toys here.

An idea I heard...

Two ideas could share the space by...

A question we still have...

Bring it to life: the child leads a two-finger walk around the green. The grown-up plays a curious visitor: “What can I do here?” Swap roles and explore again.