

# Beyond the Book...



**Title:** Take Care, Good Knight

**Author:** Shelley Moore Thomas

**Summary:** In a far Kingdom three little dragons, who live in a cave, are asked to babysit several little kittens. When they get directions to take care of the kittens they soon find out that they cannot read. The adventure begins when their friend, the Good Knight, comes to their rescue.



## ***Before Reading...***

Ask questions to use what your child already knows to help him/her understand and enjoy book:

- By looking at the cover, what do you think the book will be about?
- Why do you think the expression on the cats faces is saying and why?
- How many of the green creatures are there on the cover and why do you think they have wings?
- Have you ever owned or played with a cat and what was your experience like?
- Who do you think the man in the window is and why might he be outside?

## ***During Reading...***

As you read the book talk with the child about the story and the illustrations. Ask questions such as:

- Where do you think the wizard is going in the beginning of the story?
- Why do you think that the knight takes care and always puts the little dragons to bed?
- What kind of activities does it seem that the dragons enjoy doing, before they had to babysit the dragons?
- Why do you think there is a problem when the little dragons cannot read the directions?
- What was the expression on the cat's faces when they were taken to the lake to swim, and why do you think they reacted that way?

## ***After Reading...***

- Draw a map or a list of things for children to do and give it to the children. They will have to figure out what to do by using the drawn clues just like the dragons.
- Build a fort with a bed sheet and write a letter or postcard to the dragons about this "camping" experience with the "tent."
- Use magazines to cut out letters of the alphabet with pictures to create an alphabet book to send to the dragons. The book will help them out in their mission to learn how to read.

For additional activities visit [www.uwchatt.org](http://www.uwchatt.org) or call 423.752.0300.

*These activities provided by United Way's Project Ready for School initiative and created by students at The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.*