One small word

Tiny Tuck Reading Club · Ages 6–9

Find the page

Use the Look inside image captioned “One small word”.

Before reading · 4 minutes

Show the original preview from the book page. Explain that Tuck is trying to work out whether he can cross. Read the scene together.

Talk it through · 7 minutes

What changes when the sign gains the word “not”? Point to the word that changes the meaning. Which sign would make you stop and check?

Try it · 9 minutes

Write two sample signs on separate pieces of paper: “The bridge is open” and “The bridge is not open”. Swap the signs. Invite children to read, point to “not” or act out what they would do.

Check together

The word “not” reverses the instruction. Offer spoken, pictured or written responses and let the child choose whether to read aloud.

Your turn · One small word

Try the activity with a partner or adult.

Point to or write the word that changes the sign.

Draw what you would do if the bridge was open.

Draw what you would do if the bridge was not open.