A Winter Picnic
Written by Beth Banlin

Molly Hansen dinner winter
cannot suggest picnic basket
happen plastic splendid mittens
button traffic napkin supper

High-Frequency Words
the said would
to a are
you warm there
friends
Molly Wade liked Rose Hansen. Rose always waved as Molly waited for the bus.

“Jane,” said Molly, “I would like to ask Rose for dinner.”

“It is so cold,” Jane said. “Rose will not go out on a cold winter night.

“It is hard for Rose to get around when it is slick. She has to use a cane.”

Molly finds Mom at the stove. Corn is in a pot, and hot ham is in a pan. Mom cuts a carrot and puts it on a plate. Mom has made plum pie. Yum!
“Are you sad, Molly?” Mom asks.
“No, Mom, but Rose might be sad. She is alone and cannot come here for dinner.”
“We can go to Rose,” Mom and Jane suggest. “We can fill a picnic basket and take it to Rose. We can eat with her. We can make a picnic happen.”

Molly gets the big picnic basket. Jane puts in plastic plates, forks, and cups. Mom fills it with ham, corn, and carrots. Molly adds napkins.
“We can surprise Rose. A winter picnic in a warm home will be splendid.”
“Molly, take a blanket. Jane, take the basket,” Mom said. “I will hold the plum pie.”
Molly, Jane, and Mom get hats and mittens.
“Button up, kids! It is cold. There is no traffic, but it is slick. Take care as you cross.”
Molly raps on the door.

Rose Hansen smiles. “Come in! You all must be cold. Are you wet?”
Molly smiles. “We have food. Can we eat by the fire?”
Rose tells Molly, Mom, and Jane to sit by the fire. “It will make you warm.”

It is time for dinner. Molly takes out plastic plates. Jane takes a napkin, cup, and fork.

“Good food and friends!” Rose smiles.

“It is not just supper,” said Molly. “It is a winter picnic!”