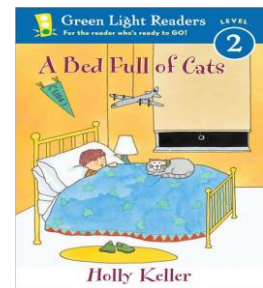


# A Bed Full of Cats by Holly Keller



Flora is Lee's cat. She is as soft as silk. Flora sleeps on Lee's bed. Lee likes it that way. When Lee moves his feet under the quilt, Flora jumps on them. **Thump!** When Lee wiggles his fingers under the sheet, Flora tries to catch them. **Swish!** When Lee pets her, Flora purrs. **Purrrrrrrr...** When Lee sleeps, Flora sleeps, too. One night Lee had a bad dream. He wanted Flora. She wasn't on his quilt. He *moved* his feet, but Flora didn't jump on the. He wiggled his fingers, but Flora didn't try to catch them. He wanted to hear her purr, but Flora was not there. The next day Flora was not in Lee's *room*. She was not on Lee's bed. Lee didn't *know* where Flora was. "You *should* try to look for her," said Mama. "We'll help you," Papa said. "She'll come home when she needs to eat," said Grandma. Lee looked for Flora in the house. Mama looked all around the garden. Papa looked in the trash bins. Grandma looked up in the peach trees. Flora didn't come home. Lee was very sad. His eyes were full of tears. If *only* Flora would come back! "Please come home," Lee cried. "We could put an ad in the newspaper," Papa said. "What *should* we *write*?" "Write this," said Lee. "We lost our cat, Flora. If you find her, please call. Then give our number." Lee didn't hear *anything* about Flora. No one found Flora, and she didn't come home. Days and weeks went by. Then one night Lee felt something on his bed. He *moved* his feet under the quilt. **Thump! Thump, thump, thump, thump!** He wiggled his fingers under the sheet. **Swish! Swish, swish, swish, swish!** Lee sat up and turned on his lamp. There was Flora—with four kittens! "Flora is home!" Lee yelled. "And that's not all!" Mama, Papa, and Grandma ran to Lee's *room*. Now Lee has a bed full of cats and he likes it that way. *Those* cats are as soft as silk. They are *also* fun. **Thump, thump. Swish, swish. Purrrrrr!**

Phonics Skill	Comprehension Skill	High-Frequency Words
Long Vowels /ē/ e, ee, ea	Draw Conclusions	also, anything, know, moved, only, room, should, those, write
<b>Genre: Realistic Fiction</b>		
Realistic fiction stories are made up, but they could happen in real life.		