



Counting Frogs Around the Pond

Level A / 33 words / informational text

High frequency words:

are, in, is, the

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "Have you been to a pond? What kinds of animals live around a pond? What do you know about frogs?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss what is happening in each picture. Count the frogs in each picture.
- Help the children find the words *is* and *in*.
- Find the new word *croak*. Have the children locate this word by predicting how the word begins.

Reading the text

- Have the children read the text independently. Encourage them to read it again if they finish before the others in the group.
- While they're reading, listen to each student individually and prompt them to use meaning, structure, and letter cues at difficulty. Praise the successful use of reading cues.
- Make sure the children can match (with their finger) or track (with their eyes) each word of the text.

After reading

- Discuss the meaning, structure, and letter cues that you noticed students using correctly at difficulty.

- **Literal comprehension:** The answers are in the text. Ask, "Where do frogs live? What sound does a frog make? How many frogs are in the pond on page 12?" Encourage the use of language from the text. Have students read the pages that support their answers.

- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "Why do frogs like to live in a pond? How do you think it feels to be a frog?"

Word work

- Have students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.

Rereading for fluency

- Have the children read the story again, either independently or with a partner.
- Use this opportunity to listen to each child and again prompt for strategy use at difficulty.

Writing activity

- Write the word *frog* on the board. Have the students draw a picture and write a sentence about a frog. Students can dictate to the teacher as needed. Encourage the use of proper punctuation and independent attempts to spell words correctly.

FUN FACT

Frogs don't often drink with their mouths.
They absorb water, and oxygen, through their skin.

Teaching Points: Using meaning to connect pictures to text; Matching words to print, one to one; Supporting proper directionality (left to right); Introducing numbers and counting in text; Oral language development.