



Entomologist Danny

Level F / 77 words / fiction

High frequency words:

an, do, eight, has, six

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "What is on Danny's head in the picture? What is an entomologist?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph in the book. Notice details in the pictures and use that information to better understand the text.
- Help the children find any tricky words in the text: *insect, spider, entomologist, scientist, and butterfly*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Have children clap and count the syllables.

Reading the text

- Have the children read the text independently. While they're reading, listen to and prompt each student to use meaning, structure, and visual information to decode words, self-correct, or improve expression.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

After reading

- Discuss the meaning, structure, and letter cues that you notice students using correctly.
- **Literal comprehension:** The answers are in the text. Ask, "How many legs does an insect have? Is a spider an insect?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.

- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "What other insects can you name? Would you like to be an entomologist? Why or why not?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Find the articles *a* and *an* on page 12. Point out that *a* is used in front of a noun (person, place, or thing) that begins with a consonant and *an* is used before a noun that begins with a vowel.
- Find and discuss the plural nouns: *insects, spiders, and legs*.

Rereading for fluency

- Have the child(ren) read the story again aloud, listening for phrased, fluent oral reading that includes appropriate pausing, intonation, and word stress.

Writing activity

- Have each student write and complete the following sentences: "*A(n) _____ has six legs. It is an insect.*" Have the students use the article (either *a* or *an*) that best fits the noun they choose to complete their sentence. Then have the students draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.

FUN FACT

Insects do not breathe through their mouths the way people and dogs do. Insects breathe through small holes called spiracles in the sides of the hard outer covering of their bodies.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Finding and clapping multisyllabic words; Noticing plural nouns; Practicing the articles *a* and *an*; Noticing nouns; Rereading.