

Dandelion Danny



by Mia Coulton

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Level D / 76 words / fiction

High frequency words:

have, one, put, them, two, with

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "What is in Danny's basket? What do you think he will do with all of those dandelion flowers?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss what is happening in each picture.
- Have the students find the word *crown* by predicting how the word begins. Ask them to name other words that start with the *cr* sound (*crow, crayon, crab*).

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.

FUN FACT

The dandelion is a very useful herb. Every part of the dandelion plant may be used as either a food or as a natural medicine.

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 dandelions does Danny have in the beginning of the story? Where does he put all the dandelions?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.
- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "Why does Danny pick the flowers? How many flowers do you think you would need to make your own flower crown?"

Word work

- Have students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Help the students locate and clap the multisyllabic words in the text: *dandelion* and *basket*.

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

- Have each student write and complete the sentence: "Danny likes to put dandelions in his _____." Then have the students draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.
- Encourage the use of punctuation and independent attempts to spell words correctly.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Finding and clapping multisyllabic words; Practicing the *cr* sound; Rereading.