



Danny and the Four Seasons

Level C / 55 words / fiction

High frequency words:

be, can, I, in, is, it, see, the, what, you

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "What are the four seasons throughout the year? What season is it in the cover photograph?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph in the book. Notice the changes in the yard for each season by asking, "How is the yard different in this picture?"
- Help students locate the word *must*. Ask students, "What is the beginning sound of *must*?"
- Have the children locate words that may be new to them: *flowers, leaves, and season*.

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

Spring is the favorite season for 36% of Americans, according to a 2005 Gallup Poll. Fall is favored by 27% and summer by 25%. Only 11% like winter best.

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, "Can you find Danny in every picture? In which picture are you not able to see Danny?"
- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "Where is Danny in the picture on page 7?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Have the students clap the two-syllable words: *flowers, summer, winter, and season*.

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 words: *spring, summer, fall, and winter* on the board. Have students choose a season and write the following sentence: "It must be _____." Then have them draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.
- Encourage the use of proper punctuation and independent attempts to spell words correctly.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Cross-checking difficult words with pictures and story meaning; Rereading; Finding and clapping two-syllable words; Introducing seasons of the year.