



# Danny's Birthday Wishes

Level D / 46 words / fiction

High frequency words:

*and, big, for, make, run*

## Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "What is Danny wearing on his head? What do you think he is celebrating? What do you think Danny wants for his birthday?"

## Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss what is happening in each picture.
- Help the children find the high-frequency words *make* and *run*.
- Have the children find the words that may be new to them: *belly, chase, and wishes*.

## 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 notice students using correctly.
- **Literal comprehension:** The answers are in the text. Ask, "What does Danny want for his birthday?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.

- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "How do you think Danny would feel if he didn't get what he wished for as a gift? How would you feel? Has that ever happened to you?"

## Word work

- Have students locate the high frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Help the students locate and clap the two-syllable words with double letters: *belly* and *happy*.
- On separate cards, write each wish Danny has for his birthday. Have the students put the cards in sequential order to match the text.

## 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 each write the following sentence: "Danny wants a \_\_\_\_\_ for his birthday." 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.

### FUN FACT

In the U.S., more people are born on October 5 than on any other day. In the U.S., the least common birth date is May 22nd (excluding leap years).

**Teaching Points:** Introducing new words; Finding and clapping two-syllable words; Introducing double consonants; Sequencing; Rereading.