



Danny's Five Little Pumpkins

Level C / 51 words / fiction

High frequency words:

can, little, on, see, the

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "What do you see on the fence in the picture? Can you guess what will happen to the little pumpkins on the fence in the story?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss what is happening in each picture.
- Help students find the high-frequency word *can*.
- Have the children find the words that may be new to them: *boo, pumpkin, and fence*. Have the children locate the words by practicing how they begin and end.
- Help the students locate the number words in the story: *one, two, three, four, and five*.

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, "How many pumpkins are on the fence on page 11?" Have the children read page 11.

- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "What did Danny do with the five little pumpkins?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Ask students to list words that rhyme with the high frequency word *can*. Write the rhyming words on the board as they come up with some examples. Point out the *an* ending in these words.

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 the students write and fill in the sentence: "*I can see _____ little pumpkins.*" 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.

FUN FACT

Pumpkins are native to North and South America.
They are a type of squash.
Like all squash, pumpkins are a fruit.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Cross-checking difficult words with pictures and story meaning; Rereading; Sequencing; Counting down from five; Introducing number words in text; Practicing rhyming words that end with *-an*.