

Danny's Game of Sink or Float



by Mia Coulton

Danny's Game of Sink or Float

Level D / 92 words / fiction

High frequency words:

and, at, look, play, said, will, with, you

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "What are Danny and Bee doing in the cover picture? What is in the bathtub?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss what is happening in each picture.
- Have the children find the words that may be new to them: *boat, sinks, tub, and water.*
- Find and clap the two-syllable words: *Danny, water, floating, and playing.*

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 items floated when Danny put them into the tub? What items sunk?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.

- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "How do you think Bee felt when Danny put him in the water? What would happen if Danny got into the water? What are some other items that would float if you put them into the tub? What are some other items that would sink?"

Word work

- Have students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Find the words with the *-ing* ending: *floating* and *playing*. Notice that these words are made up of the base word and the *-ing* ending.
- Point out the quotation marks throughout the text. Briefly explain quotation marks.

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 following sentence: "The _____ floated in the water." Then have them draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.

FUN FACT

When an object floats, it pushes water out of the way. That's called *displacement*. But guess what? Water pushes back! The more surface area an object has, the more water pushes back against it, helping it float.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Noticing punctuation (quotation marks); Practicing words that end with *-ing*; Rereading; Finding and clapping two-syllable words.