

# Baby Elephant is Thirsty

Level H / 188 words / fiction

High frequency words:

*around, drink, their, were*

## Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "Have you ever felt hot and thirsty? What did you do?"

## Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each illustration in the book. Notice details in the pictures and use that information to better understand the text.
- Help the children find any tricky words in the text: *thirsty* and *trumpeted*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words.

## Reading the text

- Have the children read the text independently. While they're reading, listen to and prompt each student to use meaning, structure, and visual information to figure out words, self-correct, or improve expression.
- Identify and discuss the basic story elements in the text: characters, setting, problem, and solution.

## After reading

- Discuss the meaning, structure, and letter cues that you notice students using correctly.

### FUN FACT

Drinking plenty of water can help reduce cavities and tooth decay. Water helps produce saliva, which keeps your mouth and teeth clean.

- **Literal comprehension:** The answers are in the text. Ask, "What happened at the beginning of the story? How was the problem solved?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.

- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "Why is it important for you to have plenty of water to drink? How do you feel when you are thirsty? From where do we get our water? Describe what you would do if you were in the same situation as Baby Elephant?"

## Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Help the students locate the action words (verbs) with the *-ed* suffix: *lifted, looked, played, splashed, stopped, trumpeted, and walked*.
- Find and discuss the homophones *their* and *there* in the story. Homophones are words that sound alike, but have different spellings and meanings.
- Find and discuss the word *drink*. Create more words with the *-ink* ending (*pink, stink, think, and wink*).

## Rereading for fluency

- Have the child(ren) read the story again aloud, listening for phrased, fluent oral reading that includes appropriate pausing, intonation, and word stress.

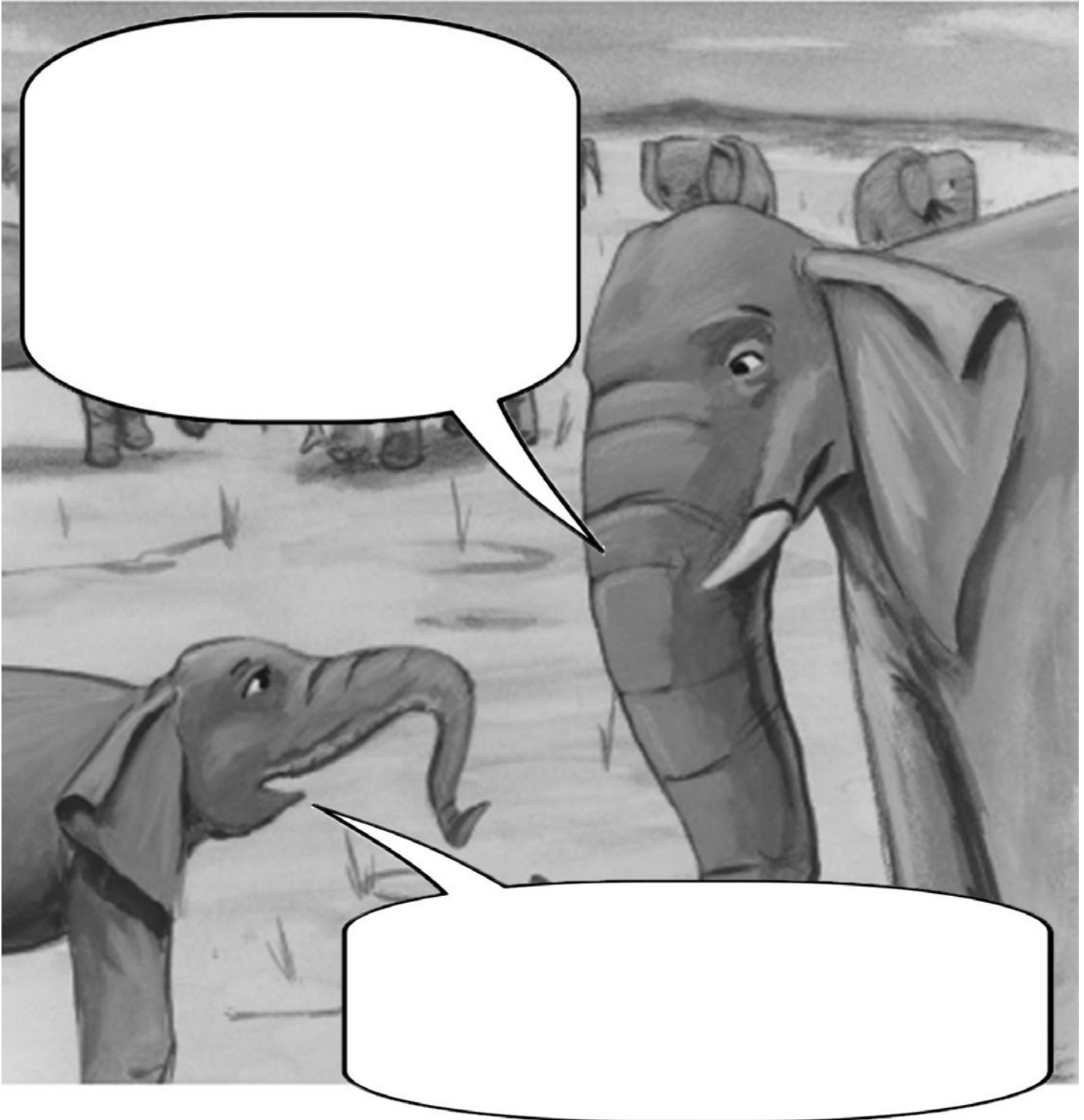
## Writing activity

- Choose an illustration of Baby Elephant in the story. Add a speech bubble and ask the students to fill in what Baby Elephant might say. Have them read their speech bubbles to each other.

**Teaching Points:** Introducing new words; Identifying and understanding basic story elements in a text; Noticing action words; Practicing words with the *-ed* suffix; Noticing homophones; Practicing words with the *-ink* ending; Rereading.

Name .....

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