

Canada Geese Around the Pond

Level F / 113 words / informational

High frequency words:

are, come, eat, that, they

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "Where have you seen Canada Geese? What do you know about Canada Geese?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *Canada, goslings, and learn*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Have children clap and count the syllables.

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 decode words, self-correct, or improve expression.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

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 do Canada Geese do around the pond? Where do the geese go in the winter?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.

- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "Why do you think Canada Geese goslings look different from Canada Geese adults? What are some ways that a father goose could protect the nest and the goslings?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Find and discuss the words with the *gr* blend: *grass* and *gray*. Using magnetic letters, make other words with the same sound and pattern (*green, grow, grip*).
- Find and practice the words with the CVCe pattern: *nine, safe, and like*.
- Find and discuss the plural nouns: *goslings, eggs, plants, ponds, and weeks*.

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.

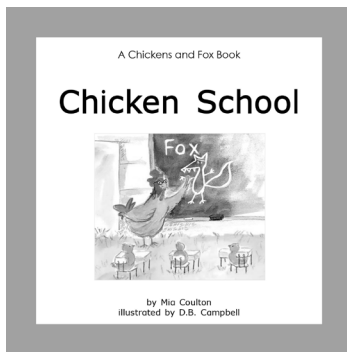
Writing activity

- Have each student write and complete the following sentence: "*Canada Geese like to _____ around the pond.*" Then have the students draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.

FUN FACT

Canada geese fly in a V-shape because it is more efficient. Each goose's flapping gives lift to the birds behind it. The V-shape also makes it easier for the geese to communicate with each other and maintain visual contact.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Finding and clapping multisyllabic words; Practicing the *gr* blend; Noticing plural nouns; Practicing words with the CVCe pattern; Rereading.



Chicken School

Level F / 149 words / fiction

High frequency words:

be, from, good, they

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "What is happening in the cover photo? What do you think the teacher is teaching her students? Why do you think that what she is teaching is important for her students to learn?"

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: *bush, clever, and laughed*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Have children clap and count the syllables.

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 decode words, self-correct, or improve expression.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

FUN FACT

Groucho Glasses (or nose glasses) are a comedy disguise that consists of a pair of black glasses with a big nose, bushy eyebrows, and mustache attached. The glasses were started by the comedian Groucho Marx of the group the Marx Brothers in the 1940s.

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 the teacher teach the chicks about the fox? What did the teacher put in each homework bag?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.
- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "How were the chicks more clever than the fox? Tell about a time when you were clever. How did that make you feel?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Find and discuss the word *chicks* with the *ch* onset. Using magnetic letters, make other words with the same beginning sound and pattern (*chap, cheek, chin, chore, chunk*).
- Point out the apostrophe in the word *you're*. Explain that *you're* is a contraction that means *you are*.

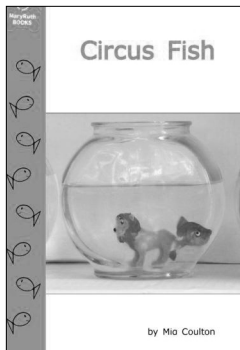
Rereading for fluency

- 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

- Have each student write and complete the following sentences: "This is a fox. A fox has _____." Then have the students draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Finding and clapping multisyllabic words; Practicing words with the *ch* onset; Noticing apostrophes in contractions; Rereading.



Circus Fish

Level F / 80 words / fiction

High frequency words:

all, come, now, one, two

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "What is in Fish's bowl? What do you think is going to happen in this story?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *through, circus, tamer, and hooray*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Have children clap and count the syllables.

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 decode words, self-correct, or improve expression.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

FUN FACT

The word clown is believed to come from the Icelandic word *klunni*, meaning a clumsy person. A group of clowns who perform together regularly is called a *clown alley*.

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 happens in each bowl of the Three Bowl Fish Circus? What is Danny's job at the circus?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.
- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "What are some other tricks Fish could perform at the Three Bowl Fish Circus? What tricks would you perform if you were in a circus?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Find and discuss the prepositions: *behind, beside, and through*. Explain that prepositional phrases can tell us where something happens.
- Point out the quotation marks and exclamation marks throughout the text. Briefly explain these punctuation marks.

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

- Have each student write and complete the following sentence with a prepositional phrase: "Look at Fish. Fish is swimming _____ the _____." Then have the students draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Finding and clapping multisyllabic words; Introducing prepositions; Noticing punctuation (quotation marks and exclamation marks); Rereading.

Danny and Bee's Safety Rules



by Mia Coulton

Danny and Bee's Safety Rules

Level F / 106 words / fiction

High frequency words:

be, how, our, ride, stop, take, when

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "What are Danny and Bee doing in the cover photo? How are they being safe?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *rollerblading, buckle, helmet, and wear*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Have children clap and count the syllables.

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 decode words, self-correct, or improve expression.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

FUN FACT

There are four basic safety rules for bike riding:
wear a helmet, ride on the right side of the road
with traffic, use appropriate hand signals,
and obey traffic signals.

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 do Danny and Bee like to play together? How do Danny and Bee play safely?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.
- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "What are some ways that you can be safe when playing with your friends?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Find and discuss the word *cross* with the *oss* ending. Using magnetic letters, make other words with the same sound and pattern (*boss, toss, across*).
- On separate cards, write each activity Danny and Bee like to do while being safe: *crossing the street, riding bikes, swimming, hiking, rollerblading, and riding in the car*. Have the students put the cards in sequential order to match the text.

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

- Have each student write the following sentence: "Danny and Bee know how to be safe." Then have the students draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Finding and clapping multisyllabic words; Practicing the *oss* ending; Rereading; Sequencing.

Danny and the Little Worm



by Mia Coulton

Danny and the Little Worm

Level F / 174 words / fiction

High frequency words:

have, his, now, saw, stop, then, was, with

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "What is Danny looking at in the cover photo? What do you think will happen to the little worm?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *paw, began, and something*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Have children clap and count the syllables.

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 decode words, self-correct, or improve expression.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

After reading

- Discuss the meaning, structure, and letter cues that you notice students using correctly.
- **Literal comprehension:** The answers are in the text. Ask, "Where does the little worm like to play? How does Danny protect the little worm?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.

- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "Why did Dad put the little worm into Danny's garden?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Find and discuss the words with the *pl* blend: *place, play, and played*. Using magnetic letters, make other words with the same beginning sound and pattern (*plant, plow, please, pluck*).
- Find and discuss the rhyming pairs: *day-play* and *saw-paw*.
- Have the students notice and locate the action words (verbs) in the book that have the *-ed* suffix: *barked, helped, moved, picked, played, stopped, and wanted*. This ending means that the action has already happened. The action happened in the past.

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.

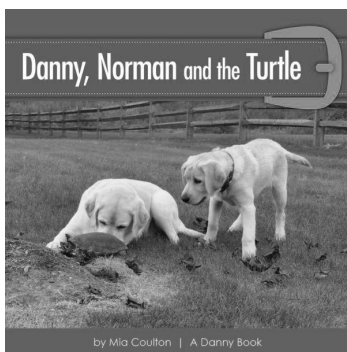
Writing activity

- Have each student write and complete the following sentence: "*The little worm played on Danny's _____.*" Then have the students draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.

FUN FACT

Baby worms are not born.
They hatch from cocoons smaller than a grain of rice.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Finding and clapping multisyllabic words; Practicing the *pl* blend; Practicing the *-ed* suffix; Practicing rhyming words; Rereading.



Danny, Norman and the Turtle

Level F / 65 words / fiction

High frequency words:

are, have, on, play, where, with

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "What are Danny and Norman looking at in the cover photo? What do you think will happen in this story?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *yelped* and *turtle*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Have children clap and count the syllables.

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 decode words, self-correct, or improve expression.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

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 Norman see in the yard? What does Danny tell Norman about the turtle?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.

- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "Why do you think Norman was afraid of the turtle? What do you know about turtles?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Find and discuss the word *slow* with the *sl* blend. Using magnetic letters, make other words with the same beginning sound and pattern (*slip, slide, slug*).
- Point out the apostrophe in the words *let's* and *it's*. Explain that *let's* is a contraction that means *let us* and *it's* is a contraction that means *it is*.
- Help the students locate the words with the *-ing* suffix: *coming, moving, and resting*.

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

- Have each student write the following sentences: "*Let's go see what it is. It's a slow moving turtle.*" Then have the students draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.

FUN FACT

Painted turtles grow to be four to ten inches long and the color of their shells can be dark olive green to black. They get their name from the red, orange, and yellow stripes on their necks, heads, and tails.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Finding and clapping multisyllabic words; Noticing apostrophes in contractions; Introducing words ending with the *-ing* suffix; Practicing words with the *sl* blend; Rereading.

Danny Paints a Picture



by Mia Coulton

Danny Paints a Picture

Level F / 117 words / fiction

High frequency words:

be, came, then, too, was

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "What is Danny getting ready to do? What types of pictures do you like to paint?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *picture, painting, began, and mouth*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Have children clap and count the syllables.

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 decode words, self-correct, or improve expression.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

FUN FACT

Animals can be artists!

Animal-made works of art have been created by apes, elephants, beluga whales, dolphins, donkeys, birds, rhinoceroses, dogs, and rabbits.

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 supplies did Danny gather with which to paint? In what order did Danny add the colors to his painting?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.
- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "How do you think Danny felt after he completed his painting? How do you feel when you create something and nobody knows what it is?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Find and discuss the words with the *br* blend: *brush* and *brown*. Using magnetic letters, make other words with the same beginning sound and pattern (*brave, broom, brick, bread*).
- Point out the apostrophe in the words *Dad's* and *Danny's*. Explain that the 's means possession.

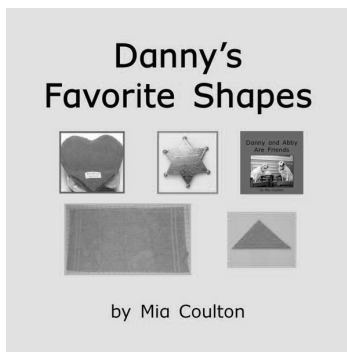
Rereading for fluency

- 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

- Have each student write and complete the following sentences: "*Danny looked at his painting. He felt _____.*" Then have the students draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Finding and clapping multisyllabic words; Sequencing; Introducing possessive words with the 's ending; Practicing words with the *br* blend; Rereading.



Danny's Favorite Shapes

Level F / 95 words / fiction

High frequency words:

eat, of, one

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "What shapes can you see on the cover? What color is each of the shapes?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *square, triangle, rectangle, badge, favorite, and towel*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Have children clap and count the syllables.

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 decode words, self-correct, or improve expression.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

FUN FACT

Many animals can detect differences in shapes, but dogs are particularly good at it. In tests, dogs have been trained to respond to complex shapes, including the written words *sit, down, and come*.

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 shape and color is Danny's towel? What shape and color is Danny's cheese? What shape and color is Danny's badge?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.
- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "What is your favorite shape? Can you name three things that are that shape?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Point out the apostrophe in the word *it's*. Explain that *it's* is a contraction that means *it is*.
- Find and discuss the words with the /ee/ phoneme: *cheese, Bee, and green*. Using magnetic letters, make other words with the same pattern (*greet, beep, seed*).

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

- Have each student write and complete the following sentence: "A _____ is one of my favorite shapes." Then have the students draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Finding and clapping multisyllabic words; Noticing apostrophes in contractions; Practicing words with the /ee/ phoneme; Rereading.

Danny's Groundhog Day



by Mia Coulton

Danny's Groundhog Day

Level F / 126 words / fiction

High frequency words:

be, its, of, or, today

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "What holiday is Danny celebrating? What do you know about Groundhog Day?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *baseball, February, groundhog, and shadow*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Have children clap and count the syllables.

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 decode words, self-correct, or improve expression.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

FUN FACT

Groundhogs are "true hibernators." They hibernate from late fall to late winter or early spring. During this time, their body temperatures drop and their heart rates slow from 80 beats per minute to just five.

After reading

- Discuss the meaning, structure, and letter cues that you notice students using correctly.
- **Literal comprehension:** The answers are in the text. Ask, "Where does Danny look for the groundhog? Does the groundhog see its shadow?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.
- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "Would you rather have six more weeks of winter or an early spring? Why?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Point out the apostrophe in the word *groundhog's*. Explain that the 's means possession.
- Find and discuss the rhyming pairs: *or-more, sit-it, and be-see*.
- Find and discuss the question marks throughout the text.

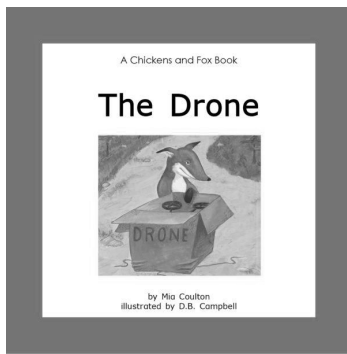
Rereading for fluency

- 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

- Have each student write and answer the following question: "*Will the groundhog see its shadow?*" Then have the students draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Finding and clapping multisyllabic words; Noticing punctuation (question marks); Practicing rhyming words; Introducing possessive words with the 's ending; Rereading.



The Drone

Level F / 113 words / fiction

High frequency words:

going, of, our, out, some, was

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "What does the fox find in the box? What do you think the fox is going to do with the drone?"

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: *lucky, drone, speeding, and thump*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Have children clap and count the syllables.

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 decode words, self-correct, or improve expression.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

FUN FACT

A drone, also known as an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV), is an aircraft without a pilot on board. A drone's flight is either controlled by a computer in the drone or remotely, by a pilot on the ground.

After reading

- Discuss the meaning, structure, and letter cues that you notice students using correctly.
- **Literal comprehension:** The answers are in the text. Ask, "How does the fox use the drone? What do the chickens do when they see the fox?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.
- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "Where would you fly a drone? Why?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Find and discuss the word *blow* with the *bl* blend. Using magnetic letters, make other words with the same beginning sound and pattern (*blue, blimp, black, bloom*).
- Find and discuss the rhyming pairs: fox-box, do-to, day-away, and we-me.
- Point out the quotation marks and exclamation marks throughout the text.

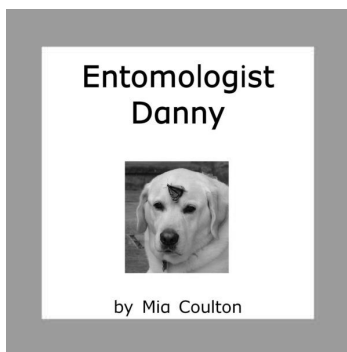
Rereading for fluency

- 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

- Have each student write and complete the following sentences: "*I am flying in the sky! I am going to look for some _____.*" Then have the students draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Finding and clapping multisyllabic words; Practicing rhyming words; Noticing punctuation (quotation marks and exclamation marks); Practicing words with the *bl* blend; Rereading.



Entomologist Danny

Level F / 77 words / fiction

High frequency words:

an, do, eight, has, six

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "What is on Danny's head in the picture? What is an entomologist?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *insect, spider, entomologist, scientist, and butterfly*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Have children clap and count the syllables.

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 decode words, self-correct, or improve expression.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

After reading

- Discuss the meaning, structure, and letter cues that you notice students using correctly.
- **Literal comprehension:** The answers are in the text. Ask, "How many legs does an insect have? Is a spider an insect?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.

- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "What other insects can you name? Would you like to be an entomologist? Why or why not?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Find the articles *a* and *an* on page 12. Point out that *a* is used in front of a noun (person, place, or thing) that begins with a consonant and *an* is used before a noun that begins with a vowel.
- Find and discuss the plural nouns: *insects, spiders, and legs*.

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

- Have each student write and complete the following sentences: "*A(n) _____ has six legs. It is an insect.*" Have the students use the article (either *a* or *an*) that best fits the noun they choose to complete their sentence. Then have the students draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.

FUN FACT

Insects do not breathe through their mouths the way people and dogs do. Insects breathe through small holes called spiracles in the sides of the hard outer covering of their bodies.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Finding and clapping multisyllabic words; Noticing plural nouns; Practicing the articles *a* and *an*; Noticing nouns; Rereading.

Five Danny Dogs



by Mia Coulton

Five Danny Dogs

Level F / 122 words / fiction

High frequency words:

five, four, saw, ten, then, was, were, with

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "How many dogs are on the front cover? What are they doing on the quilt?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *buzzing* and *quiet*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Have children clap and count the syllables.

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 decode words, self-correct, or improve expression.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

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 did each dog chase when he left the quilt? How many dogs were left on the quilt?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.

- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "How do you think Danny felt when he was the last dog on the quilt? How would you feel if you were being chased by one of the dogs?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Help the students locate the words with the *-ing* suffix: *riding, sitting, and buzzing*.
- Find and discuss the rhyming pairs: *then-ten, he-bee-three, and one-fun*.
- On separate cards, write what each dog chases when he leaves the quilt: *rabbit, bird, boy on bike, and bee*. Have the students put the cards in sequential order to match the text.

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.

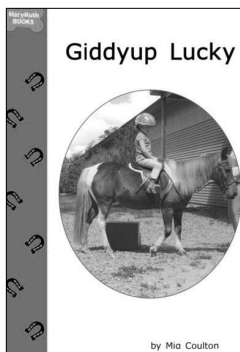
Writing activity

- Have each student write and complete the following sentences: "One dog saw a _____. Off he went to chase the _____." Then have the students draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.

FUN FACT

According to canine researcher Stanley Coren, some dogs can count to five, perform simple math calculations, understand up to 250 words and gestures, and trick people or other dogs in order to get treats.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Finding and clapping multisyllabic words; Practicing words with the *-ing* suffix; Practicing rhyming words; Sequencing; Rereading.



Giddyup Lucky

Level F / 128 words / fiction

High frequency words:

after, be, goes, going, too

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "What is happening in the cover picture? How is the little girl being safe?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *giddyup, tomorrow, bridle, Lucky, and stable*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Have children clap and count the syllables.

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 decode words, self-correct, or improve expression.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

FUN FACT

Horseback riding is more than just sitting on a horse. It improves coordination and alertness, strengthens the spine, stimulates the internal organs, improves physical and mental conditions with abled and disabled people, and boosts a sense of well-being.

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 the little girl bring to Lucky? Who teaches the little girl how to ride the pony? How does the little girl get ready to ride Lucky?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.
- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "How do you think Lucky feels about the little girl? Have you ever ridden a horse or pony? What was it like?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Find and discuss the words with the *st* blend: *stable, stall, just, and sister*. Using magnetic letters, make other words with the same sound and pattern (*star, mister, cast, most*).
- Find and practice the words with the CVCe pattern: size and name.

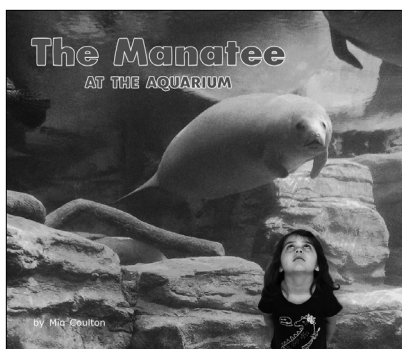
Rereading for fluency

- 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

- Have each student write the following sentences: "I like to ride Lucky. He is just the right size for me." Then have the students draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Finding and clapping multisyllabic words; Practicing words with the CVCe pattern; Practicing words with the *st* blend; Rereading.



The Manatee at the Aquarium

Level F / 68 words / informational

High frequency words:

because, has, its

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "What is happening in the cover picture? What is the little girl doing? Have you ever seen a manatee? What do you know about manatees?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *aquarium, lettuce, snout, and whiskers*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Have children clap and count the syllables.

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 decode words, self-correct, or improve expression.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

FUN FACT

Manatees have a shorter neck than other mammals. They only have six neck vertebrae, while most other mammals have seven. They can nod up and down, but cannot move their heads side to side. To see behind them they must turn their entire body around!

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 a manatee like to eat? What do manatees have at the end of their flippers? What do manatees have on their snouts?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.
- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "What do you think it would be like if you had to live your life under the water like a manatee? How would you eat? Where would you sleep? Do you think you would enjoy it? Why or why not?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Find and discuss the word *flat* with the *fl* onset. Using magnetic letters, make other words with the same sound and pattern (*flake, flap, flea, flop, flow, fly*).

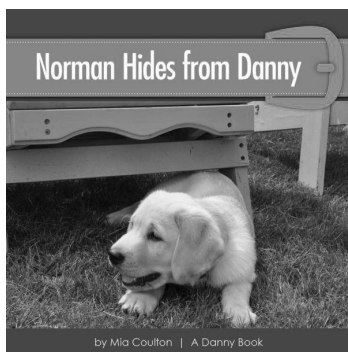
Rereading for fluency

- 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

- Have each student write the following sentences: "I like the manatee because it _____." Then have the students draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Finding and clapping multisyllabic words; Practicing words with the *fl* onset; Rereading.



Norman Hides from Danny

Level F / 113 words / fiction

High frequency words:

came, from, him, out, ran, want, with

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "Why is Norman under the chair? What do you think will happen in this story?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *together, behind, and outside*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Have children clap and count the syllables.

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 decode words, self-correct, or improve expression.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

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 game do Norman and Danny play together? Where did Norman hide from Danny?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.

- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "Why does Norman like to stay near Danny when they play? How do you think Norman felt when Danny did not come to find him? Have you ever felt alone or forgotten?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Find and discuss the prepositions: *behind, inside, outside, and under*. Explain that prepositional phrases can tell us where something is.
- Find and discuss the rhyming words: *hid-did, away-stay-play, and tree-he-me-we*.

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.

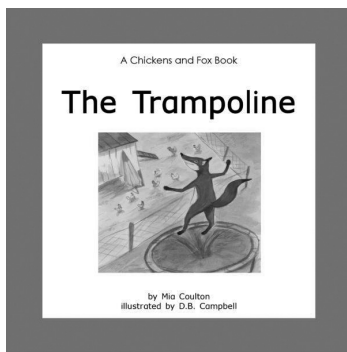
Writing activity

- Have each student write the following sentences: "*I did not want to hide from Danny. I wanted to find Danny.*" Then have the students draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.

FUN FACT

Playing hide-and-seek with your dog can be fun!
Tell your dog to sit/stay out of sight and hide a favorite toy. Release your dog from the sit/stay, and ask her to "Find it!" When your dog locates the hidden object, praise happily and excitedly. Then, start all over again, making the hiding spot more difficult each time.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Finding and clapping multisyllabic words; Practicing rhyming words; Introducing prepositions; Rereading.



The Trampoline

Level F / 77 words / fiction

High frequency words:

going, into, out, was, were

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "What is the fox doing in the picture on the front cover? What do you think the fox is going to do next?"

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: *boing, ready, trampoline, and yikes*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Have children clap and count the syllables. Notice that *boing* and *yikes* are examples of onomatopoeia.

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 decode words, self-correct, or improve expression.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

After reading

- Discuss the meaning, structure, and letter cues that you notice students using correctly.
- **Literal comprehension:** The answers are in the text. Ask, "How does the fox use the trampoline? What do the chickens do when they see the fox on the trampoline?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.

- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "Have you ever jumped on a trampoline? How did it feel? If you could use a trampoline to jump into any place, where would you jump?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Find and discuss the word *fair* with the /ai/ vowel pattern. Using magnetic letters, make other words with the same sound and vowel pattern (*hair, pair, chair, stair*).
- Find and discuss the word *noise* with the /oy/ phoneme. Discuss other words with the same sound (*boy, oil, toys*).

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.

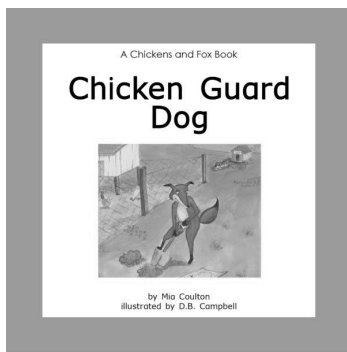
Writing activity

- Have each student write and complete the following sentences: "*I am jumping on a trampoline. I am going to jump into/onto the _____.*" Then have the students draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.

FUN FACT

Trampolines are used for more than just jumping. Divers practice their ability to target a landing spot by trampolining and freestyle skiers practice moves and tune up their balance on trampolines.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Finding and clapping multisyllabic words; Noticing *onomatopoeia*; Practicing the /ai/ vowel sound; Practicing words with the /oy/ phoneme; Rereading.



Chicken Guard Dog

Level G / 99 words / fiction

High frequency words:

all, but, his, of, out, too, was

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "What is the fox doing in the picture on the cover? Why do you think the fox is looking at a map?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *clever, shing, and guard*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Have children clap and count the syllables. Notice that *shing* is an example of onomatopoeia.

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.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, solve most new words independently, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

FUN FACT

Livestock Guardians are animals that protect livestock on the farm. They can be llamas or donkeys, but in most cases, they are dogs. These dogs are known as Livestock Guardian Dogs, or LGDs for short.

After reading

- Discuss the meaning, structure, and letter cues that you notice students using correctly.
- **Literal comprehension:** The answers are in the text. Ask, "Where was the fox trying to dig? How did the chickens move the guard dog's house?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.
- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "What do you think the guard dog thought about the clever fox? Where do you think the fox went after he got caught?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Find and discuss the plural noun *chickens*. Change the following words into plural nouns: *fox (foxes), house (houses), and map (maps)*.
- Find and discuss the words with the /ou/ phoneme: *sounds, house, and out*. Discuss other words with the same pattern (*ground, mouse, count, our*).

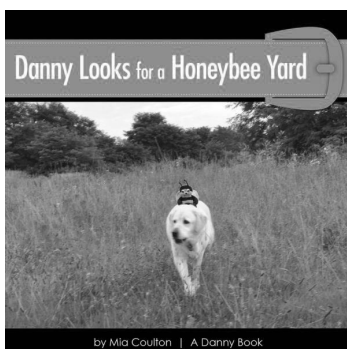
Rereading for fluency

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

Writing activity

- Have each student elaborate on the text by adding dialog between the guard dog and the chickens at the end of the story. Then have the students draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Finding and clapping multisyllabic words; Noticing onomatopoeia; Practicing the /ou/ sound; Introducing plural nouns; Adding dialogue with illustrations; Rereading.



Danny Looks for a Honeybee Yard

Level G / 160 words / fiction

High frequency words:

be, by, don't, has, they, were

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "What are Danny and Bee doing on the front cover? Where do you think they are going?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *honeybee, wooden, buzz, and hungry*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Have children clap and count the syllables. Notice that *honeybee* is a compound word.

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.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

FUN FACT

The honey bee is the only insect that produces food eaten by man. A beekeeper, or *apiarist*, keeps bees in order to collect their honey and other products that the hive produces. A location where bees are kept is called an *apiary* or "bee yard."

After reading

- Discuss the meaning, structure, and letter cues that you notice students using correctly.
- **Literal comprehension:** The answers are in the text. Ask, "Why did Danny and Bee want to find the honeybee yard? What sound did Danny and Bee hear that helped them find the honeybee yard?" 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 he didn't get to meet any bees? Can you think of any uses for honey other than to eat it on toast?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Help the students locate the words with the -ed suffix: *looked, listened, and stopped*.
- Find and discuss the homonymns *here* and *hear*.
- Find and discuss the plural nouns: *beehives, bees, boxes, friends, and honeybees*. Change the following words into plural nouns: *sign, snack, and yard*.

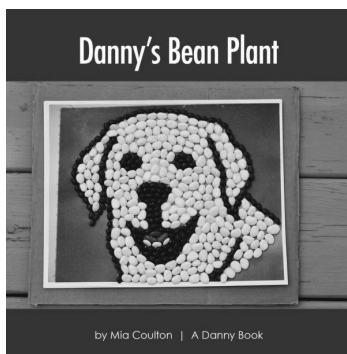
Rereading for fluency

- 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

- Find and discuss the warning sign on page 5. Have each student design a warning sign for a honeybee yard, including words and pictures.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Noticing compound words; Finding and clapping multisyllabic words; Practicing the -ed suffix; Introducing homonymns; Practicing plural nouns; Rereading.



Danny's Bean Plant

Level G / 119 words / informational fiction

High frequency words:

eat, then, too, under, was, were

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "What was used to make Danny's picture? What do you know about beans?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *worry, hungry, and buy*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Have children clap and count the syllables.

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.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

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 did the beans look like on Monday and on Wednesday? How had the beans changed?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.

- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "Why does it take a long time for a bean plant to grow? What do you think Danny will do with the beans when they are ready to pick?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Point out the apostrophe in the words *there's, I'll, and I'm*. Explain that *there's* is a contraction that means *there is*, *I'll* means *I will*, and *I'm* means *I am*.
- Find and practice the words with the /ea/ vowel pattern: *bean, each, and eat*.
- On separate cards, write and draw what the beans looked like on each day of the week. Have the students put the cards in sequential order to match the text.

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.

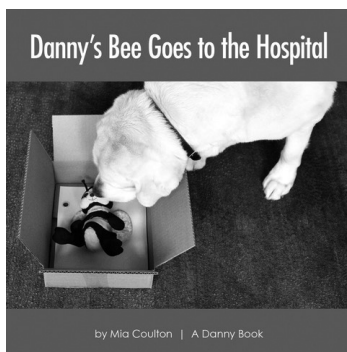
Writing activity

- Have each student write and complete the following sentence: "*Danny picked the beans and made _____.*" Then have the students draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.

FUN FACT

The *Cloud Gate* sculpture, created by Anish Kapoor, is a popular attraction in Chicago. The sculpture is nicknamed *The Bean* because it is shaped like a bean.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Finding and clapping multisyllabic words; Noticing apostrophes in contractions; Practicing words with the /ea/ vowel pattern; Sequencing.



Danny's Bee Goes to the Hospital

Level G / 149 words / fiction

High frequency words:

be, from, going, new, take, then, was

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "Why do you think Danny put Bee in the box? What do you think will happen in this story? Have you ever gone to the hospital?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *hospital, calm, and package*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Have children clap and count the syllables.

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.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

FUN FACT

A doll hospital is a workshop that specializes in the restoration or repair of dolls. One of the oldest doll hospitals was established in Lisbon, Portugal in 1830. There is even a Doll Doctors Association in the United States.

After reading

- Discuss the meaning, structure, and letter cues that you notice students using correctly.
- **Literal comprehension:** The answers are in the text. Ask, "When Norman was playing with Bee, what happened to Bee? What was Danny's idea to fix Bee?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.
- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "How do you think Norman felt when he had to tell Danny what happened to Bee? Have you ever accidentally broken a friend's toy? How did that make you feel?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Find and practice the words with the /ow/ phoneme: *found, shouted, and down*.
- Find and discuss the homophones *eye-I* and *be-Bee* in the story. Homophones are words that sound alike, but have different spellings and meanings.

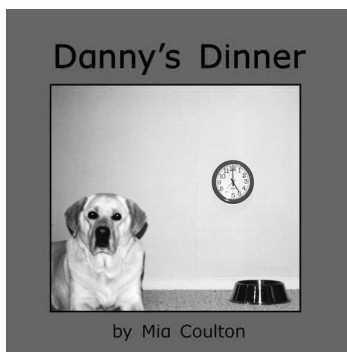
Rereading for fluency

- 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

- Have each student write and complete the following sentence: "I have a great idea! Let's send Bee to the _____." Then have the students draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Finding and clapping multisyllabic words; Noticing apostrophes in contractions; Noticing possessive words with the 's ending; Practicing words with the /ow/ phoneme; Introducing homophones.



Danny's Dinner

Level G / 142 words / fiction

High frequency words:

be, don't, good, have, how, so, was

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "What do you think Danny is thinking about in the picture? How do you think he is feeling?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *buy* and *worry*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Have children clap and count the syllables.

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.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

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 time does Danny eat dinner? What time was it when Danny finally got to eat his dinner?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.

- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "How do you think Dad felt when he realized there was no more food for Danny? How would you feel if you had to eat the same thing for dinner everyday?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Point out the apostrophe in the words *there's*, *don't*, *I'll*, and *I'm*. Explain that *there's* is a contraction that means *there is*, *don't* means *do not*, *I'll* means *I will*, and *I'm* means *I am*.
- Find and discuss the rhyming sets: *you-do-to*, *so-no-oh*, and *for-more-store*.
- Point out the quotation marks, question marks, and exclamation marks throughout the text.

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

- Have each student elaborate on the text by adding what happened next after Danny ate his dinner. Then have the students draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.

FUN FACT

Some people foods are bad for dogs. A few of these foods are: almonds, avocados, chocolate, garlic/onions, grapes/raisins, macadamia nuts, xylitol, and yeast.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Finding and clapping multisyllabic words; Noticing apostrophes in contractions; Noticing punctuation (quotation marks, question marks, exclamation marks); Practicing rhyming words; Adding dialogue with illustrations.



Danny's Really Big Show

Level G / 143 words / fiction

High frequency words:

don't, going, has, then, was, your

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "What is Danny wearing? What do you think Danny is going to do?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *ta-da, magic, guitar, building, and guess*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Have children clap and count the syllables.

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.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

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 did Danny want to do in the really big show? What did Bee want to do in the show?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.

- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "Why did Bee leave the building? How do you think Bee felt? How would you feel if you couldn't do something you wanted to do?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Help the students locate the words with the /ck/ blend: *pick, back, and trick*.
- Find and discuss the rhyming words: *see-he-Bee* and *trick-pick*.
- Point out the apostrophe in the words *can't* and *won't*. Explain that *can't* is a contraction that means *cannot* and *won't* is a contraction that means *will not*.

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

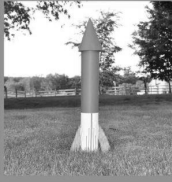
- Have each student write and complete the following sentences: "*I am going to put on a really big show. I will _____ in the really big show.*" Then have the students draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.

FUN FACT

The Ed Sullivan Show was a weekly television variety show that featured famous singers, actors, opera stars, ballet dancers, and circus acts. Ed Sullivan would start off nearly every broadcast by telling the audience, "We have a really big show tonight."

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Finding and clapping multisyllabic words; Noticing apostrophes in contractions; Practicing words with the /ck/ blend; Practicing rhyming words; Rereading.

Danny's Rocket



by Mia Coulton

Danny's Rocket

Level G / 131 words / fiction

High frequency words:

came, going, how, made, take, too, was, white

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "What is on the front cover? What do you think will happen in this story?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *spacesuit, science, goodbye, and stripes*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Have children clap and count the syllables. Notice that *spacesuit* and *goodbye* are compound 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.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

FUN FACT

Putting on a spacesuit takes 45 minutes, including the time it takes to put on the special undergarments that help keep astronauts cool. The process of putting on a spacesuit is called *donning* and the process of removing it is called *doffing*.

After reading

- Discuss the meaning, structure, and letter cues that you notice students using correctly.
- **Literal comprehension:** The answers are in the text. Ask, "Why did Danny want to make a rocket? Why did Bee ride on the rocket instead of Danny?" 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 the rocket started going down, down, down? How would you feel if you were on a rocket to the moon?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Find and practice the words with the CVCe pattern: *make, made, white, safe, came, and take*.
- Find and discuss the pairs of opposite words in the text: *up-down* and *big-small*. Opposites are also called *antonyms*.

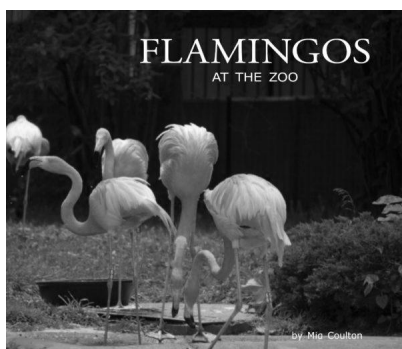
Rereading for fluency

- 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

- Have each student elaborate on the text by creating a future episode of Danny's Rocket where Danny and Bee make it to the moon. Then have the students draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Noticing compound words; Finding and clapping multisyllabic words; Practicing words with the CVCe pattern; Introducing antonyms (opposite pairs); Rereading; Expanding text with illustrations.



Flamingos at the Zoo

Level G / 122 words / informational

High frequency words:

be, eat, from, has, its, or, their, they, under

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "Where have you seen flamingos? What do you know about flamingos?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *covered, curved, honk, and stilts*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Have children clap and count the syllables.

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.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

After reading

- Discuss the meaning, structure, and letter cues that you notice students using correctly.
- **Literal comprehension:** The answers are in the text. Ask, "Why are flamingos pink? Why does a flamingo have a curved beak?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.

- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "Why do you think flamingos stand on one leg? Why do you think flamingos have long necks and legs? Why do you think flamingos like to be with other flamingos?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Find and discuss the plural nouns: *wings, stilts, legs, flamingos, feathers, and birds*. Change the following words into plural nouns: *beak, body, and noise*.
- Find and discuss the rhyming pairs: *not-lot* and *that-at*.
- Find and discuss the words with the /nk/ blend: *pink, honk, and drinking*.
- Find and discuss the words with the /oo/ phoneme: *zoo, scooping, and food*.

Rereading for fluency

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

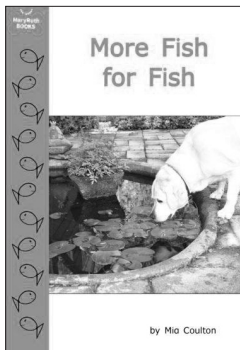
Writing activity

- At the zoo, there are signs describing each animal on display. Have each student design a zoo sign for the flamingo exhibit, including facts and pictures.

FUN FACT

The word *flamingo* comes from the Spanish word *flamenco*, which came from the earlier Latin word *flamma*, meaning flame or fire.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Finding and clapping multisyllabic words; Practicing the /nk/ blend; Practicing the /oo/ phoneme; Noticing rhyming words; Practicing plural nouns; Rereading.



More Fish for Fish

Level G / 115 words / fiction

High frequency words:

be, but, of, then, too, was, when, with, would

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "Where is Danny? What is Danny doing?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *thought* and *friend*. 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.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

After reading

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

FUN FACT

The largest goldfish is the size of a cat. The Guinness World Record for the world's longest goldfish stands at 18.7 inches from nose to tail-fin.

- **Literal comprehension:** The answers are in the text. Ask, "Who is Fish's 'one friend'? Why did Fish have to move to the pond?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.

- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "How do you think Danny felt when he put Fish into the pond? How would you feel if you had to go to a new and different home, like Fish?"

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: *lived*, *moved*, and *named*. This ending means that the action already happened. It happened in the past.
- Find and discuss the rhyming pairs: *then-when*, *that-at*, *be-me*, and *got-not*.
- On separate cards, write the four different places Fish has lived: *tank*, *little bowl*, *bigger bowl*, and *pond*. Have the students put the cards in sequential order to match the text.

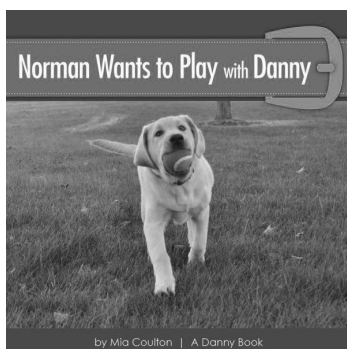
Rereading for fluency

- 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

- Have each student write and complete the following sentence: "*Fish moved to a home in a _____ because _____.*" Then have the students draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Noticing rhyming words; Practicing the -ed suffix; Noticing action words (verbs); Sequencing; Rereading.



Norman Wants to Play With Danny

Level G / 120 words / fiction

High frequency words:

have, now, want, why, with, yes

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "What does Norman have in his mouth? What do you think is going to happen in this story?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *frisbee, grabbed, and asked*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Have children clap and count the syllables.

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.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

After reading

- Discuss the meaning, structure, and letter cues that you notice students using correctly.
- **Literal comprehension:** The answers are in the text. Ask, "Why didn't Danny want to play ball with Norman? What changed Danny's mind?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.

- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "How do you think Danny felt when he saw Norman playing with Bee? How would you feel if your friend was playing with your favorite toy?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Point out the apostrophes in the words *Danny's* and *won't*. Explain that the 's in *Danny's* means possession and that *won't* is a contraction that means *will not*.
- Help the students locate the action words (verbs) with the -ed suffix: *lived, moved, and named*. This ending means that the action already happened. It happened in the past. Using magnetic letters, have the students change the following verbs into past tense: *play* and *look*.

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

- Have each student write and complete the following sentences: "I have a _____. Will you come play with me?" Then have the students draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.

FUN FACT

Playing with your dog is more than just great exercise, it's a great way to bond. Here are some ideas to play with your pet: blow some bubbles, throw a frisbee, turn on the hose, play hide and seek, or play chase.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Finding and clapping multisyllabic words; Introducing contractions; Introducing possessive words with the 's ending; Noticing punctuation (apostrophes); Practicing the -ed suffix; Noticing action words (verbs).



The Octopus at the Aquarium

Level G / 97 words / informational

High frequency words:

eight, has, its, their, they

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "Where have you seen an octopus? What do you know about octopuses?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *aquarium, clever, octopus, octopuses, and squeeze*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Have children clap and count the syllables.

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.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

After reading

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

FUN FACT

In 2016, *Inky*, an octopus in an aquarium in New Zealand, escaped from his enclosure after the lid of his tank was left ajar. *Inky* made his way across the floor, slithered down the inside of an 150-foot drainpipe, and disappeared into the ocean.

- **Literal comprehension:** The answers are in the text. Ask, "What does an octopus look like? How does an octopus hide?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.

- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "Why is it important for an octopus to be able to change the shape, texture, and color of its skin? What would you do if you could change the shape, texture, and color of your skin?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Help the students locate the words with the /ck/ blend: *pick* and *rock*.
- Find and practice the words with the CVCe pattern: *hide, like, pipe, and shape*.
- Point out and discuss the words *its* and *it's*. Explain that *its* is a possessive form of the pronoun *it*, meaning *belonging to it*, and *it's* is a contraction that means *it is* or *it has*.

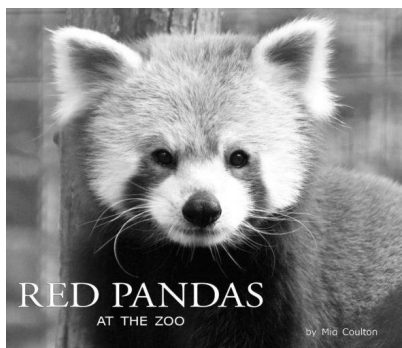
Rereading for fluency

- 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

- Have each student write and complete the following sentences: "*The octopus is very clever. It can _____.*" Then have the students draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Finding and clapping multisyllabic words; Practicing the /ck/ sound; Practicing words with the CVCe pattern; Noticing the difference between *its* and *it's*; Rereading.



Red Pandas at the Zoo

Level G / 85 words / informational

High frequency words:

be, because, its, when

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "Where have you seen a red panda? What do you know about red pandas?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *bushy, striped, and waddles*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Have children clap and count the syllables.

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.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

After reading

- Discuss the meaning, structure, and letter cues that you notice students using correctly.
- **Literal comprehension:** The answers are in the text. Ask, "Where do red pandas sleep? Why does a red panda waddle?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.

- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "Why do you think red pandas sleep in trees? Why do you think a red panda has stripes on its face and its tail?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Find and discuss the words with the /sh/ digraph: *shorter, shy, and bushy*.
- Point out the *str* onset in the word *striped*. Using magnetic letters, create other words with the *str* beginning sound (*string, straw, strong, stray*).
- Point out the apostrophe in the word *panda's*. Explain that the 's means possession.

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.

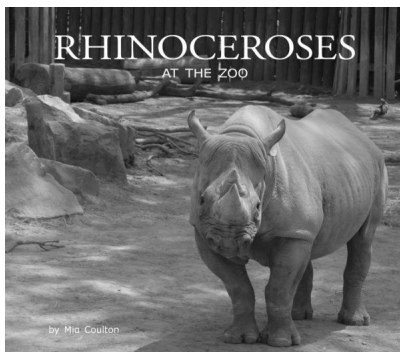
Writing activity

- Have each student write and complete the following sentence: "Look at the red panda _____." Then have the students draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.

FUN FACT

Red pandas exhibit temperature-regulating behaviors. They curl into a tight ball to conserve body heat in cold weather. When it is warm, red pandas stretch out on branches and pant to lower their body temperature.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Finding and clapping multisyllabic words; Practicing the *sh* sound; Introducing possessive words with the 's ending; Practicing the *str* onset; Rereading.



Rhinoceroses at the Zoo

Level G / 124 words / informational

High frequency words:

have, its, of, their, they, with

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "Where have you seen a rhinoceros? What do you know about rhinoceroses?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *eyesight*, *carrying*, and *weight*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Have children clap and count the syllables. Notice that *eyesight* is a compound word.

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.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

FUN FACT

A male rhinoceros is called a **bull**, a female is a **cow**, and a young rhino is a **calf**.
A group of rhinoceroses is called a **crash**.

After reading

- Discuss the meaning, structure, and letter cues that you notice students using correctly.
- **Literal comprehension:** The answers are in the text. Ask, "Why are rhinos good at picking up things with their mouths? Where does a rhino have hair?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.
- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "Why is it important for a rhino to have good hearing and well-developed sense of smell? Why do you think rhinos have horns?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Help the students locate the words with the *-ing* suffix: *carrying*, *sleeping*, and *wrapping*.
- Find and discuss the plural nouns: *ears*, *legs*, *rhinos*, *toes*, and *horns*.
- Find and discuss the words with the */ea/* vowel pattern: *each* and *ears*.

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

- Have each student write and complete the following sentence: "Rhinos have _____ horns on their head." Then have the students draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Finding and clapping multisyllabic words; Noticing compound words; Practicing the */ea/* sound; Practicing words with the *-ing* suffix; Practicing plural nouns; Rereading.



Seahorses at the Aquarium

Level G / 132 words / informational

High frequency words:

around, eat, has, its, long, very

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "Where have you seen a seahorse? What do you know about seahorses?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *aquarium*, *curly*, and *seahorse*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Have children clap and count the syllables. Notice that *seahorse* is a compound word.

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.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

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 is the shape of a seahorse's head? How fast does a seahorse swim? Why?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.

- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "Why would it be helpful to look in two directions at the same time? What would you do if you could look in two different directions at the same time?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Find and discuss the word *snout* with the /ou/ vowel sound. Using magnetic letters, create other words with the same vowel sound (*about, out, pout, spout*).
- Help the students locate the words with the -ing suffix: *hanging, holding, moving, and swimming*.
- Point out the apostrophe in the word *horse's*. Explain that the 's means possession.

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

- Have each student write and complete the following sentence: "A seahorse has a _____ so it can _____." Then have the students draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.

FUN FACT

In Greek Mythology, hippocamps, also known as seahorses, were the fish-tailed horses of the sea. These creatures had the head of a horse and the tail of a fish. Poseidon, the Greek god of the sea, traveled in a chariot drawn by fierce seahorses.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Finding and clapping multisyllabic words; Noticing compound words; Practicing the /ou/ vowel sound; Practicing words with the -ing suffix; Introducing possessive words with the 's ending; Rereading.



Sharks at the Aquarium

Level G / 117 words / informational

High frequency words:

because, every, found, going, has, its, many, was

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "Where have you seen a shark? What do you know about sharks?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *aquarium, breathes, quickly, and yikes*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Have children clap and count the syllables. Explain that *yikes* is an exclamation expressing shock and alarm.

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.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

FUN FACT

Shark skin feels just like sandpaper.
Instead of flat and rough scales like a fish, shark
scales are smooth and teeth-like.
These scales point towards the tail, which reduces
friction and helps the shark to swim very fast.

After reading

- Discuss the meaning, structure, and letter cues that you notice students using correctly.
- **Literal comprehension:** The answers are in the text. Ask, "Why do sharks always look like they are staring? What happens when a shark loses a tooth?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.
- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "Why is it important for sharks to have rows and rows of teeth? What would you do if you had lots and lots of teeth?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Help the students locate the words with the *-ing* suffix: *fishing, losing, staring, and swimming*.
- Point out the apostrophe in the word *shark's*. Explain that the 's means possession.
- Find and discuss the plural nouns: *pups, sharks, rows, and teeth*.

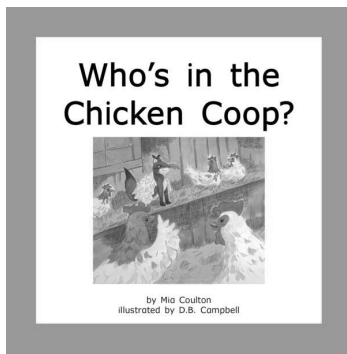
Rereading for fluency

- 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

- Have each student write and complete the following sentence: "*Sharks use their _____ to _____.*" Then have the students draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Finding and clapping multisyllabic words; Noticing exclamation words; Practicing words with the *-ing* suffix; Introducing possessive words with the 's ending; Practicing plural nouns; Rereading.



Who's in the Chicken Coop?

Level G / 95 words / fiction

High frequency words:

all, black, has, new, they, white

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "How many dogs are on the front cover? What are they doing on the quilt?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *orange, fluffy, and coop*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Have children clap and count the syllables.

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.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

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 did the chickens notice about the new chicken's feathers and feet? When did the chickens notice that the new chicken was not a chicken?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.

- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "Why did the fox dress up as a chicken? How do you think the fox felt when he got caught? Why?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Find and discuss the words with the /ea/ vowel pattern: *each* and *ears*. Using magnetic letters, create words with the same pattern (*seam, tea, dear, read*).
- Point out the apostrophe in the word *chicken's*. Explain that the 's means possession.
- Point out the *ack* rime in the word *black*. Using magnetic letters, create other words with the *ack* ending sound (*back, knack, crack, stack, pack*).

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

- Have each student write and complete the following sentences: "Look at the new chicken's _____. They are so _____." Then have the students draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.

FUN FACT

A *chicken coop* or *hen house* is a small house where chickens are kept safe and secure. Inside the coop, there are perches on which the birds sleep and nest boxes for egg-laying.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Finding and clapping multisyllabic words; Practicing the /ee/ vowel sound; Introducing possessive words with the 's ending; Practicing the *ack* rime; Rereading.



Autumn in the Woods

Level H / 155 words / informational

High frequency words:

around, brown, fly, over, under, many

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title. Call attention to the informational text features within the text: bold words, glossary, diagram (field journal), photographs.
- Possible discussion questions: "What types of things do you see, smell, and hear in autumn? What do you want to learn about autumn in the woods?"
- Fill in the first two columns of a KWL chart on autumn. Fill in the K section with what students already KNOW about autumn and fill in the W section with WHAT they would like to learn about autumn.

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *nearby, signs, woolly, and ready*. 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.
- Introduce and discuss graphic organizers. A graphic organizer provides a visual representation of information, concepts, or ideas to help children understand and organize what they are reading.

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 signs of autumn did Danny and Bee see in the woods? What did you learn while reading about autumn?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.
- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "What activities do you do in autumn? What does autumn look like where you live? How do you get ready for winter?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Help the students locate the rhyming words around and *ground*. Create more words with the same -ound ending (*sound, found, pound, mound, round*).
- Find and discuss the plural nouns in the text. Make the following nouns into plural nouns: *leaf, mouse, and acorn*.

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.

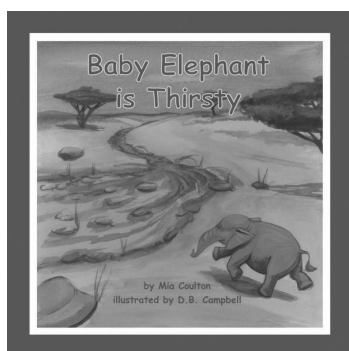
Writing activity

- Have each student complete the L section of the KWL chart with what they have LEARNED about autumn in the woods after reading this book. Have students share what they've learned with each other.

FUN FACT

The Autumn Equinox is one of two days a year when the Earth receives exactly 12 hours of light and 12 hours of darkness. *Equinox* is a Latin word meaning *equal night*.

Teaching Points: Introducing nonfiction/informational texts; Introducing the KWL graphic organizer; Introducing new words; Practicing rhyming words with the -ound ending; Practicing plural nouns; Rereading.



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*).

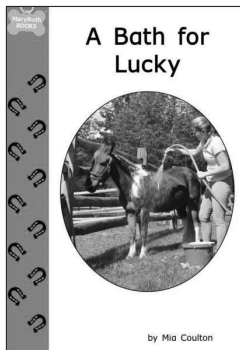
Rereading for fluency

- 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.



A Bath for Lucky

Level H / 196 words / fiction

High frequency words:

all, eat, done, give, going, was

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion question: "What are some reasons why animals and people need to take baths?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *another, bathtime, knew, and shampoo*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Notice that *bathtime* is a compound word.

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

It takes two gallons of water to brush your teeth, two to seven gallons to flush a toilet, and 30 to 50 gallons for a bath. A shower of 10 minutes uses 50 gallons of water.

- **Literal comprehension:** The answers are in the text. Ask, "What do you know about the characters in this story? What was the problem in the story?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.

- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "Have you ever met a person or animal who didn't like to take a bath? What would you have said or done if you were in this story?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Find and practice the words with the CVCe pattern: *hide, hose, and rose*.
- Find and discuss the rhyming pairs: *wet-get* and *rid-did*.
- Find and discuss the words with the /ar/ sound pattern: *cart* and *farm*. Create more words with the same sound (*hard, park, large, chart, star*).

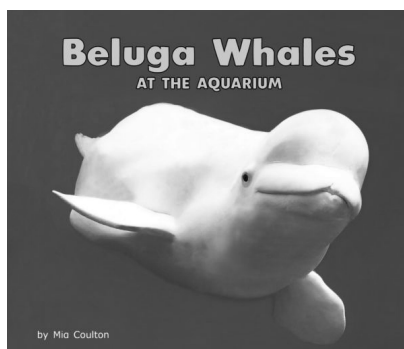
Rereading for fluency

- 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

- Have each student elaborate on the text by creating a future episode of *A Bath for Lucky* in which the student writes of how Lucky gets dirty again and needs another bath. Then have the students draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Noticing compound words; Identifying and understanding basic story elements in a text; Practicing words with the CVCe pattern; Practicing rhyming words; Practicing the /ar/ sound; Rereading.



Beluga Whales at the Aquarium

Level H / 135 words / informational

High frequency words:

all, be, made, their, they, white

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title. Call attention to the informational text features within the text: bold words, glossary, photographs, labeled illustration.
- Possible discussion questions: "Where have you seen a beluga whale? What do you know about belugas? What do you want to know about belugas?"
- Fill in the first two columns of a KWL chart on beluga whales. Fill in the K section with what students already KNOW about belugas and fill in the W section with WHAT they would like to learn about belugas.

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *beluga, blowhole, blubber, breathe, and melon*. Notice that *blowhole* is a compound word.

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.
- Introduce and discuss graphic organizers. A graphic organizer provides a visual representation of information, concepts, or ideas to help children understand and organize what they are reading.

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 is the purpose of the beluga whale's melon? How does a beluga whale breathe?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.

• **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "Why do you think a beluga whale makes so many different sounds? Why do you think beluga whales like to be with other beluga whales?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Point out the apostrophe in the word *beluga's*. Explain that the 's means possession.
- Find and discuss the word *noise* with the /oi/ digraph. Make other words that sound the same (*coin, foil, point*).

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

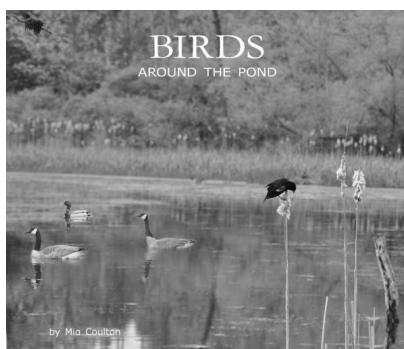
- Have each student complete the L section of the KWL chart with what they have LEARNED about beluga whales after reading this book. Have them share what they've learned with each other.

FUN FACT

Beluga whales are nicknamed *sea canaries* because they are extremely vocal.

Belugas make many different sounds, including: whistles, clicks, mews, bleats, chirps, and bell tones.

Teaching Points: Introducing nonfiction/informational texts; Introducing the KWL graphic organizer; Introducing new words; Noticing compound words; Introducing possessive words with the 's ending; Practicing the /oi/ digraph; Rereading.



Birds Around the Pond

Level H / 105 words / informational

High frequency words:

around, live, over, they

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title. Call attention to the informational text features within the text: bold words, glossary, photographs.
- Possible discussion questions: "What types of birds have you seen outside? What types of birds have you seen around a pond?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *hawk, heron, Mallard, red-shouldered, and red-winged*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Notice and discuss the hyphenated 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.
- Introduce and discuss graphic organizers. A graphic organizer provides a visual representation of information, concepts, or ideas to help children understand and organize what they are reading.

FUN FACT

A bird's eye takes up about 50 percent of its head;
our eyes take up about five percent of our head.

To be comparable to a bird's eyes,
our eyes would have to be the size of baseballs.

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 types of birds live around the pond? Which birds were swimming in the pond?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.
- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "Why is the pond a good habitat for these birds? Would you like to live around the pond?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Help the students locate the words with the *-ing* suffix: *flying, sitting, and swimming*.
- Find and discuss the compound words: *blackbird* and *cattail*.
- Point out the apostrophe in the word *bird's*. Explain that the 's means possession.

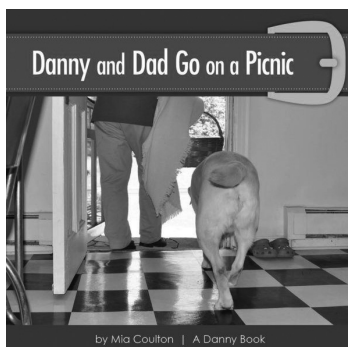
Rereading for fluency

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

Writing activity

- Have each student create a web diagram graphic organizer for birds around the pond. A web diagram is often used to list ideas, facts, characteristics and/or traits related to a single topic. Have them read their web diagrams to each other.

Teaching Points: Introducing nonfiction/informational texts; Introducing new words; Noticing hyphenated words; Practicing words with the *-ing* suffix; Noticing compound words; Introducing possessive words with the 's ending; Rereading; Introducing the web diagram graphic organizer.



Danny and Dad Go on a Picnic

Level H / 224 words / fiction

High frequency words:

about, around, found, sing, were

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "Where are Danny and Dad going? Have you ever been on a picnic?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *beautiful, picnic, sandwich, and shady*. 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.
- **Literal comprehension:** The answers are in the text. Ask, "Where did this story take place? What happened in the story?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.

- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "How do you think Dad felt when he found out that Danny ate his lunch? Have you ever met anyone who was like Danny in this story?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Find and discuss the rhyming words: *stay-way* and *spot-forgot-got*.
- Point out and discuss the apostrophe in the words *I've*, *everything's*, *didn't*, and *let's*. Explain that these words are all contractions.
- On separate cards, draw the foods that Dad put into the picnic basket and write their names: *apple, cheese sandwich, and dogfood*. Have the students put the cards in sequential order to match the text.

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 a photo from the story. Add a speech bubble and ask the students to fill in what Danny or Dad might say. Have them read their speech bubbles to each other.

FUN FACT

In the United States,
National Picnic Day is celebrated on April 23.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Identifying and understanding basic story elements in a text; Practicing rhyming words; Noticing apostrophes in contractions; Sequencing; Rereading.

Danny and the Bully



by Mia Coulton

Danny and the Bully

Level H / 344 words / fiction

High frequency words:

about, know, today, try, very, were

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "What do you think this story is going to be about? How do you think Danny will react to the Bully in the story?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *growled, maybe, next, and thought*. 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.
- **Literal comprehension:** The answers are in the text. Ask, "Who are the characters in this story? Where does this story take place? What happens in this story?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.

- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "Why do you think Spike bullied Danny? Have you ever been bullied? What did you do?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Find and discuss the words with the /ea/ vowel pattern: *mean* and *leave*.
- Find and discuss the words with the /ay/ vowel pattern: *day, okay, play, someday, stay, and today*.

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

- Introduce the story map graphic organizer. A story map is a strategy that uses a graphic organizer to help students learn the elements of a book or story. Fill in the setting, characters, events, and problem sections of a story map graphic organizer together.
- Have each student complete the solution section of the story map on their own. Then have the students work in pairs to retell the events from problem to solution.

FUN FACT

A national survey commissioned by the Cartoon Network in 2017 found that more than 90% of students said that adults in their family and teachers at school set good examples of kind behavior. Less than half of the kids said that adults in government do the same.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Identifying and understanding basic story elements in a text; Practicing the /ea/ sound; Practicing the /ay/ sound; Rereading; Introducing the story map graphic organizer.



Giraffes at the Zoo

Level H / 124 words / informational

High frequency words:

around, long, their, very

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title. Call attention to the informational text features within the text: bold words, glossary, photographs.
- Possible discussion questions: "Where have you seen a giraffe? What do you know about giraffes?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *calf, animal, tongues, whistle, and wraps*. 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.
- Introduce and discuss graphic organizers. A graphic organizer provides a visual representation of information, concepts, or ideas to help children understand and organize what they are reading.

After reading

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

FUN FACT

A male giraffe is called a **bull**, a female giraffe is a **cow**, and a young giraffe is a **calf**.
A group of giraffes is called a **journey**.

- **Literal comprehension:** The answers are in the text. Ask, "What was the main idea of what you read? What were the supporting details that told you more about the main idea?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.

- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "What else would you like to know about giraffes? If you had a long neck like a giraffe, how would it change the way you eat? What would you build so that you could feed a giraffe?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Find and discuss the rhyming words: *too-zoo, around-ground, and front-grunt*.
- Find and discuss the plural nouns: *giraffes, legs, necks, tails, tongues, and trees*.
- Find and discuss the word *tail* with the /ai/ vowel pattern. Create more words with this pattern (*snail, bait, train, paid, and chain*).

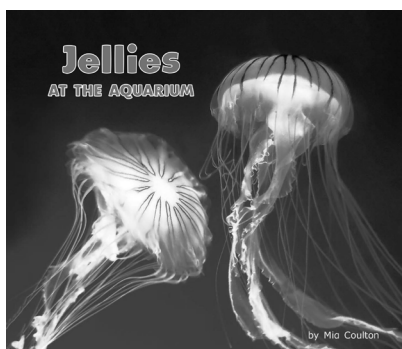
Rereading for fluency

- 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

- Have each student create a web diagram graphic organizer for giraffes. A web diagram is often used to list ideas, facts, characteristics and/or traits related to a single topic. Have them read their web diagrams to each other.

Teaching Points: Introducing nonfiction/informational texts; Introducing new words; Noticing rhyming words; Practicing plural nouns; Practicing the /ai/ sound; Rereading; Introducing the web diagram graphic organizer.



Jellies at the Aquarium

Level H / 154 words / informational

High frequency words:

many, they, together

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title. Call attention to the informational text features within the text: bold words, glossary, photographs.
- Possible discussion questions: "Where have you seen jellies? What do you know about jellies?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *aquarium, tentacles, umbrella, and water*. 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.
- Introduce and discuss graphic organizers. A graphic organizer provides a visual representation of information, concepts, or ideas to help children understand and organize what they are reading.

After reading

- Discuss the meaning, structure, and letter cues that you notice students using correctly.
- **Literal comprehension:** The answers are in the text. Ask, "How do jellies move through the water? What are some other words for groups of jellies?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.

- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "Why do some jellies have stingers with poison? Why do you think jellies come in so many different sizes and colors? Describe how you would look if you were a jelly."

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Find and discuss the word *swarm* with the *sw* onset. Make other words that sound the same (*swat, sway, swim*).
- Find and discuss the word *smack* with the *ack* rime. Make other words that sound the same (*back, hack, tack*).

Rereading for fluency

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

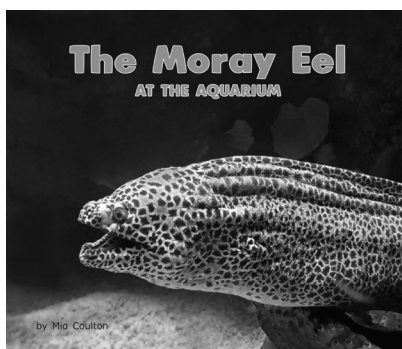
Writing activity

- Have each student create a web diagram graphic organizer for jellies. A web diagram is often used to list ideas, facts, characteristics and/or traits related to a single topic. Have them read their web diagrams to each other.

FUN FACT

The *lion's mane jellyfish*, also called the *hair jelly*, is the biggest jelly in the world. It gets its name from its long, dangling tentacles that resemble a lion's mane. It can have tentacles that are over 120 feet long - that is longer than a blue whale. The largest known lion's mane jelly was found in 1870 off the coast of Massachusetts.

Teaching Points: Introducing nonfiction/informational texts; Introducing new words; Practicing the *sw* onset; Practicing the *ack* rime; Rereading; Introducing the web diagram graphic organizer.



The Moray Eel at the Aquarium

Level H / 127 words / informational

High frequency words:

all, long, many

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title. Call attention to the informational text features within the text: bold words, glossary, photographs.
- Possible discussion questions: "Where have you seen a moray eel? What do you know about moray eels?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *aquarium, breathes, gills, and prey*. 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.
- Introduce and discuss graphic organizers. A graphic organizer provides a visual representation of information, concepts, or ideas to help children understand and organize what they are reading.

FUN FACT

Eels are slimy. Morays, like other eels, secrete a thin, clear layer of mucus that covers their skin. This slippery layer helps them glide through the water and protects their skin from sharp coral and rocks. The phrase *slippery as an eel* is often used to describe someone who is devious or elusive.

After reading

- Discuss the meaning, structure, and letter cues that you notice students using correctly.
- **Literal comprehension:** The answers are in the text. Ask, "How does a moray eel breathe? Describe some of the moray eel's physical features." Have students read the pages that support their answers.
- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "Why do moray eels come in different colors and patterns? Why do you think a moray eel is shaped the way that it is?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Find and discuss the plural nouns: *colors, fins, rows, and teeth*.
- Find and discuss the words with the /ee/ vowel pattern: *eel, green, teeth*. Using magnetic letters, create more words with this pattern (*beet, cheek, deer, feet, sheep, week*).

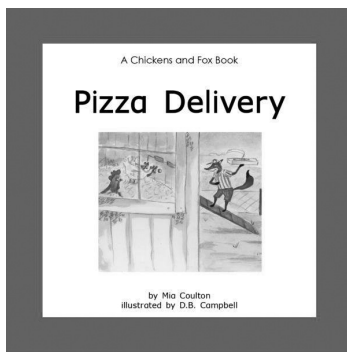
Rereading for fluency

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

Writing activity

- At the aquarium, there are signs describing each animal on display. Have each student design a zoo sign for the moray eel exhibit, including facts, labels, and pictures.

Teaching Points: Introducing nonfiction/informational texts; Introducing new words; Practicing plural nouns; Practicing the /ee/ vowel sound; Rereading.



Pizza Delivery

Level H / 104 words / fiction

High frequency words:

first, how, own, were

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "What is the fox doing in the illustration on the front cover? What do you think is going to happen next?"

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: *delicious, delivery, knock, outfox, peephole, scissors, and voice*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Notice that *peephole* and *outfox* are compound 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 decode words, self-correct, or improve expression.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

After reading

- Discuss the meaning, structure, and letter cues that you notice students using correctly.
- **Literal comprehension:** The answers are in the text. Ask, "Why does the fox dress up in the pizza delivery costume? How do the chickens scare the fox?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.

- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "What does it mean to *outfox* someone? Can you think of a time when you have been *outfoxed*? How did that make you feel?"

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: *dropped, jumped, looked, and opened*.
- Point out and discuss the apostrophe in the words *who's* and *it's*. Explain that *who's* is a contraction that means *who is* or *who has* and *it's* is a contraction that means *it is* or *it has*.
- Find and discuss the plural nouns *scissors* and *chickens*.

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.

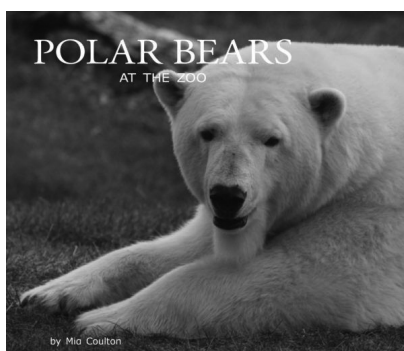
Writing activity

- Choose an illustration of either the chickens or the fox in the story. Add a speech bubble and ask the students to fill in the what the character(s) might say. Have them read their speech bubbles to each other.

FUN FACT

In 2005, the record for the world's largest rectangular pizza was set in Iowa Falls, Iowa. A team of 200 people created the 129 foot X 98.6 foot pizza - enough pizza to feed the town's 5,200 residents ten slices each.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Noticing compound words; Noticing action words: Practicing words with the *-ed* suffix; Noticing plural nouns; Rereading.



Polar Bears at the Zoo

Level H / 141 words / informational

High frequency words:

from, has, its, small, very, warm, was

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title. Call attention to the informational text features within the text: bold words, glossary, photographs.
- Possible discussion questions: "Where have you seen a polar bear? What do you know about polar bears? What would you like to know about polar bears?"
- Fill in the first two columns of a KWL chart on polar bears. Fill in the K section with what students already KNOW about polar bears and fill in the W section with WHAT they would like to learn about polar bears.

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *absorbs, footpads, underneath, and Velcro*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Notice that *footpads* is a compound word.

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.

FUN FACT

An adult male polar bear can weigh between 775 and 1,200 pounds (the same as the total weight of five to seven men). That same cub weighed only one pound when he was born.

- Introduce and discuss graphic organizers. A graphic organizer provides a visual representation of information, concepts, or ideas to help children understand and organize what they are reading.

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 did you find interesting about polar bears? Why?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.
- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "How do you think polar bears feel about the warm seasons at the zoo? What else would you like to know about polar bears?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Find and discuss the word *paw* with the /aw/ vowel pattern. Create other words with the same pattern (*saw, flaw, thaw, gnaw, and raw*).

Rereading for fluency

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

Writing activity

- Have each student complete the L section of the KWL chart with what they have LEARNED about polar bears after reading this book. Have them share what they've learned with each other.

Teaching Points: Introducing nonfiction/informational texts; Introducing the KWL graphic organizer; Introducing new words; Noticing compound words; Practicing the /aw/ sound; Rereading.



Spring in the Woods

Level H / 146 words / informational

High frequency words:

always, around, full, new, very

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title. Call attention to the informational text features within the text: bold words, glossary, diagram (field journal), photographs.
- Possible discussion questions: "What does spring look like where you live? How does spring make you feel?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *black-capped*, *chickadee*, *exciting*, *observe*, *red-bellied*, *salamander*, and *wildflowers*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Notice that *wildflowers* is a compound word.

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.
- Introduce and discuss graphic organizers. A graphic organizer provides a visual representation of information, concepts, or ideas to help children understand and organize what they are reading.

FUN FACT

The first day of spring is called the Vernal Equinox. On the first day of spring, the sunrise and sunset are about 12 hours apart everywhere on earth.

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 types of animals did Danny and Bee see in the woods? What did you learn about spring in the woods?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.
- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "What are your favorite things about spring? What are some activities you like to do in the spring?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Find and discuss the rhyming words: *spring-thing*. Using magnetic letters, create other words with the same ending (*ring, bring, sing, wing, and fling*).
- Point out the apostrophe in the word *it's*. Explain that *it's* is a contraction that means *it is* or *it has*.

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

- Have each student create a web diagram graphic organizer for spring in the woods. A web diagram is often used to list ideas, facts, characteristics and/or traits related to a single topic. Have them read their web diagrams to each other.

Teaching Points: Introducing nonfiction/informational texts; Introducing new words; Noticing compound words; Practicing rhyming words; Noticing apostrophes in contractions; Rereading; Introducing the web diagram graphic organizer.



Summer in the Woods

Level H / 150 words / informational

High frequency words:

around, fly, many, very

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title. Call attention to the informational text features within the text: bold words, glossary, diagram (field journal), photographs.
- Possible discussion questions: "What do you know about summer? What would you like to know about summer in the woods?"
- Fill in the first two columns of a KWL chart on summer. Fill in the K section with what students already KNOW about summer and fill in the W section with WHAT they would like to learn about summer in the woods.

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *bumblebee, chirp, dragonfly, and grasshopper*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Notice that *dragonfly* and *grasshopper* are compound 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.
- Introduce and discuss graphic organizers. A graphic organizer provides a visual representation of information, concepts, or ideas to help children understand and organize what they are reading.

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 did you learn about summer in the woods?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.
- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "What does summer look like where you live? Why do you think insects are more active in the summer?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Find and discuss the plural nouns in the text. Change the following words into plural nouns: *ant, bee, edge, leaf, and grasshopper*.

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.

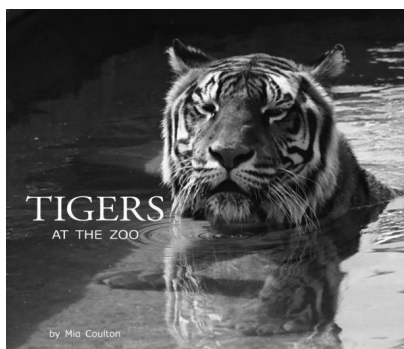
Writing activity

- Have each student complete the L section of the KWL chart with what they have LEARNED about summer in the woods after reading this book. Have them share what they've learned with each other.

FUN FACT

The *dog days of summer* are July 3 to August 11 and are named for the Dog Star in the Canis Major constellation.

Teaching Points: Introducing nonfiction/informational texts; Introducing the KWL graphic organizer; Introducing new words; Noticing compound words; Noticing insect words (an example of specific diction); Practicing plural nouns; Rereading.



Tigers at the Zoo

Level H / 103 words / informational

High frequency words:

be, their, they, very

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title. Call attention to the informational text features within the text: bold words, glossary, photographs.
- Possible discussion questions: "Where have you seen a tiger? What do you know about tigers?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *catnap*, *bright*, *people*, and *relaxing*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Notice that *catnap* is a compound word.

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.
- Introduce and discuss graphic organizers. A graphic organizer provides a visual representation of information, concepts, or ideas to help children understand and organize what they are reading.

FUN FACT

Tigers are the largest cat species in the world and the third-largest carnivore on land-- only polar and brown bears are larger.

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 did you learn about tigers while you were reading? Were there any text features that helped you better understand your reading?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.
- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "How would you move so that you don't make any noise? How is a tiger like a pet cat? How are they different?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Point out the apostrophe in the word *tiger's*. Explain that the 's means possession.
- Find and discuss the rhyming words *night* and *bright*. Create more words with the *-ight* ending (*flight*, *sight*, *right*, *fight*, and *light*).

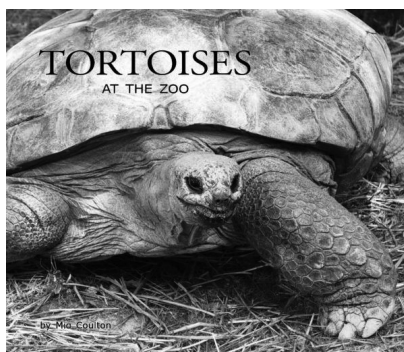
Rereading for fluency

- 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

- Have each student create a web diagram graphic organizer for tigers. A web diagram is often used to list ideas, facts, characteristics and/or traits related to a single topic. Have them read their web diagrams to each other.

Teaching Points: Introducing nonfiction/informational texts; Introducing new words; Noticing compound words; Introducing possessive words with the 's ending; Practicing words with the *-ight* ending; Rereading; Introducing the web diagram graphic organizer.



Tortoises at the Zoo

Level H / 110 words / informational

High frequency words:

always, from, over, walk

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title. Call attention to the informational text features within the text: bold words, glossary, photographs.
- Possible discussion questions: "Where have you seen a tortoise? What do you know about tortoises? What do you want to know about tortoises?"
- Fill in the first two columns of a KWL chart on tortoises. Fill in the K section with what students already KNOW about tortoises and fill in the W section with WHAT they would like to learn about tortoises.

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph 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: *Aldabra, giant, jaw, and protects*. 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.
- Introduce and discuss graphic organizers. A graphic organizer provides a visual representation of information, concepts, or ideas to help children understand and organize what they are reading.

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 is the purpose of the tortoise's shell? How does the tortoise eat food when it doesn't have teeth?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.

- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "Why do you think a tortoise lives so long? Do you think a tortoise would be a good pet? Why? What else would you like to know about tortoises?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Find and discuss the words with the /sh/ digraph: *sharp, shell, short, and mash*.
- Find and discuss the word *jaw* with the aw rime. Make other words that sound the same (*saw, flaw, gnaw*).

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

- Have each student complete the L section of the KWL chart with what they have LEARNED about tortoises after reading this book. Have them share what they've learned with each other.

FUN FACT

Tortoises detect smells with the vomeronasal organ on the roof of their mouths. Instead of flicking their tongues, they pump their throats to circulate air through the nose and around the mouth.

Teaching Points: Introducing nonfiction/informational texts; Introducing the KWL graphic organizer; Introducing new words; Practicing the /sh/ digraph; Practicing words with the aw rime; Rereading.