

ENGLISH

Lesson 1

Prep

Topic: Exploring stories

Sharing a story

Lesson concepts

- N** **Text organisation** — Concepts about print and screen: books, film and digital texts work in different ways
- N** **Author and context** — Authors tell stories that are similar or different to students' own experiences
- N/M** **Expressing preferences** — Feelings and thoughts about events, characters
- N** **Comprehension strategies** — Understanding and discussing texts

Today students will:

- ▶ understand how to comprehend text by making connections to own experiences
- ▶ understand concepts about print
- ▶ understand how to talk about feelings and thoughts in response to what happens in a text.

Resources

Text

Favourite picture book (story)

Find and prepare

digital camera (optional)

scrapbook, notebook or paper

some toys and everyday materials for play (for example: sheet, chairs, table, cardboard boxes, hose, kitchen implements)

Lesson

Share a story

Find a favourite picture book (story) you have at home.

Show the book to students.

Discuss the front cover, the back cover and the title of the book with students.

Say to students

“ This is a book. This is the front cover and this is the back cover. On the front cover is the ‘title’ of the story, which is the special word for the name of a story. ”

Focus question

Q: *What do you think the title of this story might be?*

Respond to students' suggestions about the title.

Say to students

“ The title of this story is _____ . (Tell students the title of the story.) ”

Focus questions

Q: *I wonder why the story is called that?*
Q: *What illustrations (pictures) can you see on the front cover?*

Explore the illustrations on the front and back covers and throughout the book and discuss what might happen in the story.

Focus questions

Q: *What do you think will happen in the story?*
Q: *Why do you think that will happen?*

Read the story to students.

Talk about reading skills and the story with students.

Hold the book so you can both see the illustrations and words as you read.

Bring attention to where the illustrations are located on the page, and where the letters and words are positioned.

Show how there are spaces between words.

Show and talk about how to turn pages in a book carefully by lifting the corner.

Sometimes use your finger to show directionality (reading left to right) and return sweep (moving down to the next line) as you read. Show how:

- your eyes move from left to right across the page
- your eyes move from one word to the next
- you move your eyes down to the beginning of the next line when you get to the end of a line.

Sometimes ask questions about the words, sentences or events in the text aloud as you read to show how to make meaning.

As you read the story, ask one or two questions to help students talk about the ideas, pictures and words in the book.

Focus questions

Q: *What can you tell me about the pictures on this page?*

Q: *What do you see?*

Q: *What's happening?*

At the end of reading, discuss the story, sharing thoughts and feelings and linking the story to students' own experiences.

Make connections to students' own ideas.

Focus questions

Q: *What did you like or dislike about this book?*

Q: *Does any part of this story remind you of something that has happened or a way that you may have felt before?*

Q: *Do you think the things that happened in this book could really happen?*

Prepare for play

Explain to students that they will:

- create and set up a pretend play situation based on the story they have just read
- use their imagination.

Gather materials needed for play: a space to play, some toys, everyday materials for cubby spaces (for example, sheet, chairs, table), interesting objects.

Ask students to collect some toys and everyday materials that they think they might use in a pretend situation about the story.

Invite students to play or make up their own game in response to the story.

Encourage students to keep playing and try to include available toys and everyday materials.

Encourage students to use their imagination to think of new ideas to keep their game going and to put their ideas into words.

Use a digital camera to take photographs of the students' play (optional).

View the photos on the camera and ask the students to tell you what was happening in the pictures (optional).

Ask the students to pack away the materials they used.

Provide students with their scrapbooks.

Have students draw a picture about the story they read.

Ask students to tell you about their drawing.