

COMPREHENSION STRATEGY LESSON PLANS AND PRACTICE PAGES

The following preview shows all of the comprehension strategy resources for *Blueberries for Sal* by Robert McCloskey

Retelling & Summarizing Lesson Plan

Blueberries for Sal
By: Robert McCloskey
Grade Level: 2 / Guided Reading Level: M

1

Get Ready To Read

- Learn about the book
- Get your brain ready to read
- Understand the meaning of important words found in the book

Summary

Blueberries for Sal tells the story of a young girl named Sal who goes blueberry picking with her mother on a quiet hill in the woods. At the same time, a mother bear and her cub, Little Bear, are also gathering blueberries nearby. As Sal eats berries instead of putting them in her pail, she slowly wanders away without noticing. Little Bear, curious and tired, also falls behind. Soon, Sal and Little Bear accidentally begin following the wrong mothers. Confusion grows as the children move farther from where they started. Now each mother must search for their child on Blueberry Hill.

Link to What You Know

- Tell about a time when you had a problem that you needed to solve. What did you do?
- Have you ever explored somewhere new in nature? Tell about it.

Important Words to Know and Understand

Can – To put food into jars or containers so it can be saved and eaten later

Tin pail – A small metal bucket with a handle used to carry things.

2

Learn About Comprehension Strategies

- Think about the text
- Know what to do when you get confused

Why Readers Retell and Summarize While Reading

Readers retell and summarize to remember the important events, characters, and information in books.

When you read fiction (stories that are not real), it is helpful to think about the sequence of events and the most important characters and settings in the story. When you retell and summarize, it is important to describe what happened first, next, then, and last. It is also important to tell who did what and where each event took place.

On the other hand, when you read nonfiction (books about real people, places, things, or events), your job is to think like a teacher. Retell and summarize the information using important details, facts, and vocabulary from the text.

Whether you are retelling and summarizing fiction or nonfiction, the most important thing to do is use your own words.

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Guided Reading Level

Retelling & Summarizing Lesson Plan

Blueberries for Sal
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3

Retell and Summarize While Reading

- Think about the important events that happened first, next, then, and last
- Notice the names of the characters and

Time to Read

Stop on the following pages. Think about the questions for each page. Then talk with a reading partner or write your thoughts down in your notebook.

Pages 10 to 13 – Sal goes blueberry picking with her mother. What can you learn about Sal's character on these pages? How does answering this question help you as a reader?

Pages 18 and 19 – Two new characters are introduced on these pages. Who are they? What are they like?

Pages 26 and 27 – Use the illustrations on these pages to tell more about the setting. Where does this story take place? How do you know? How does answering this question help you as a reader?

Pages 38 and 39 – Both Sal and Little Bear have a problem. What is their problem? Is it the same or different? How do you know?

Pages 50 to 53 – These pages tell about the solution to Sal and Little Bear's problem. How is it resolved? Is this a happy ending to the story? Why or why not?

4

Notice the Work You Did While Reading

- Think
- Talk
- Reflect

Time to Reflect

Think – What type of information did you use when you retold and summarized *Blueberries for Sal*? Did you stop throughout the story to think about what was happening in the book? What did you do when you finished the book?

Talk – Tell your reading partner about your favorite part of the book. Tell about the characters, the setting, and the events. Explain why the part you chose was your favorite. Remember to ask your partner to share their thoughts about the book too.

Reflect – Think about the characters, events, and the settings in *Blueberries for Sal*. How does paying attention to the story elements help you to be a better reader?

Write – Glue your Strategy Slip into your Reader's Notebook. Write about the work you did while reading *Blueberries for Sal*. (Remember to include examples from the book!)

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Activate Prior Knowledge

Page by Page Guide and Strategy Questions

Turn, Talk, and Reflect

Key Vocabulary

Explanation of Strategy

1

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Summary

Blueberries for Sal tells the story of a young girl named Sal who goes blueberry picking with her mother on a quiet hill in the woods. At the same time, a mother bear and her cub, Little Bear, are also gathering blueberries nearby. As Sal eats berries instead of putting them in her pail, she slowly wanders away without noticing. Little Bear, curious and tired, also falls behind. Soon, Sal and Little Bear accidentally begin following the wrong mothers. Confusion grows as the children move farther from where they started. Now each mother must search for their child on Blueberry Hill.

Link to What You Know

- Think about a time when you had a problem that you were not allowed to "let" what happened?
- Tell about something that your mom or dad does to comfort you or make you happy. What do they do?

Important Words to Know and Understand

Can – To put food into jars or containers so it can be saved and eaten later

Tin pail – A small metal bucket with a handle used to carry things.

2

Learn About Comprehension Strategies

- Think about the text you read
- Know what to do when you get confused

Why Readers Make Connections While Reading

Readers make connections to better understand what they are reading. There are three types of connections that readers make:

Text-to-Text – When you connect what you are reading to another text.

Text-to-Self – When you connect what you are reading to your own life.

Text-to-World – When you connect what you are reading to the world around you.

The first type of connection is a text-to-text connection. When readers make a text-to-text connection, they connect what they are reading to another text. This can be a book, a movie, or a TV show. For example, if you are reading a story about a girl who is afraid of the dark, you might connect it to a movie you saw about a girl who is afraid of the dark.

The second type of connection is a text-to-self connection. When readers make a text-to-self connection, they connect what they are reading to their own life. For example, if you are reading a story about a girl who is afraid of the dark, you might connect it to your own experience of being afraid of the dark.

The third type of connection is a text-to-world connection. When readers make a text-to-world connection, they connect what they are reading to the world around them. For example, if you are reading a story about a girl who is afraid of the dark, you might connect it to the fact that many people are afraid of the dark.

Making Connections

1

Get Ready To Read

- Learn about the book
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- Understand the meaning of important words found in the book

Summary

Blueberries for Sal tells the story of a young girl named Sal who goes blueberry picking with her mother on a quiet hill in the woods. At the same time, a mother bear and her cub, Little Bear, are also gathering blueberries nearby. As Sal eats berries instead of putting them in her pail, she slowly wanders away without noticing. Little Bear, curious and tired, also falls behind. Soon, Sal and Little Bear accidentally begin following the wrong mothers. Confusion grows as the children move farther from where they started. Now each mother must search for their child on Blueberry Hill.

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Why Readers Notice Text Structure While Reading

Readers notice text structure to better understand what they are reading. Text structure is the way that an author organizes the information in a text. There are several types of text structures:

Sequence – when information is given in chronological order

Problem and Solution – when a problem is explained and a solution is described

Compare and Contrast – when an author writes about the way two or more people, places, or things are alike and different

Cause and Effect – when the author explains why something happened (cause) and what happened (effect)

Understanding Text Structure

Practice Pages and Answer Keys

Answer Key for Making Connections with Blueberries for Sal

Pages 8 to 13

Sal goes to her mother. Make a text-to-text connection and think of another day when the main character is lost or looking for someone.

Pages 18 and 19

Sal is in connect.

Pages 26 and 27

Sal looks for her mother. Use the text and illustrations to tell what happens first, next, then, and last as the searchers. Who does the end up following behind?

Pages 38 and 39

Sal has a problem and solution text structure to show Sal and Little Bear. What is Little Bear doing? What is Sal doing?

Pages 50 to 53

The author uses a compare and contrast text structure to show Sal's mother and Little Bear's mother finding their children. How do each of their mothers find them?

Answer Key for Retelling and Summarizing with Blueberries for Sal

Pages 10 to 13

Sal goes blueberry picking with her mother. What can you learn about Sal's character on these pages?

Pages 18 and 19

Two new characters are introduced on these pages. Who are they?

Pages 26 and 27

Use the illustrations on these pages to tell more about the setting. Where does this story take place? How do you know?

Pages 38 and 39

Both Sal and Little Bear have a problem. What is their problem? Is it the same or different? How do you know?

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WRITING ABOUT READING WITH OPTIONAL CCSS ALIGNMENT

Strategy and Text Based Reader's Response Prompt

Common Core State Standard

"I Can" Statement

Common Core Free Option

Reading Response Prompts for Each Comprehension Strategy Lesson Plan

3 COMPREHENSION STRATEGY GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS

Making Connections

Title: _____

Think about the book. What does the book remind you of?

What type of connection did you make?

Text-to-Self Text-to-Text Text-to-World

Draw a picture of your connection in the box below.

Directions:

1. Answer each of the questions.
2. Carefully cut out on the dotted line.
3. Glue, tape, or staple into your Reader's Notebook.

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Making Connections

Retelling and Summarizing

Title: _____

What is this book about?

Draw a picture or write a sentence for each box below.

First	Next
Then	Last

Directions:

1. Answer each of the questions.
2. Carefully cut out on the dotted line.
3. Glue, tape, or staple into your reader's notebook.

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Retelling & Summarizing

Understanding Text Structure

Title: _____

Text Structure	Where the Text Structure Was Used	How the Text Structure Helped Me
Page: _____	Page: _____	Page: _____
Page: _____	Page: _____	Page: _____
Page: _____	Page: _____	Page: _____
Page: _____	Page: _____	Page: _____

Text Structures You Might See While Reading

Definition	Sequence	Compare and Contrast	Cause and Effect

Directions:

1. Answer each of the questions.
2. Carefully cut out on the dotted line.
3. Glue, tape, or staple into your Reader's Notebook.

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Understanding Text Structure