

COMPREHENSION STRATEGY

LESSON PLANS AND PRACTICE PAGES

The following preview shows all of the comprehension strategy resources for *Can I Be Your Dog?* By Troy Cummings

Author's Purpose Lesson Plan

Can I Be Your Dog?
By: Troy Cummings
Grade Level: 2 / Guided Reading Level: L

Identifying the Author's Purpose

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

Arfy is a kind and loving dog who really wants a family and a place to call home. Arfy wanders down Butternut Street, writing letters to everyone asking, "Can I be your dog?" Arfy writes to the people in the yellow house, the fire station, and even the junkyard—but nobody says that they want to be his owner. Poor Arfy feels very sad and lonely, and curls up in a cardboard box in an alley to sleep. Then, just when he had given up hope, he wakes up to find a letter taped to his box. But who sent it... and what does it say?

Link to What You Know

- Have you ever written a letter to someone? Tell about it.
- Tell about a time when you fell left out or sad.

Important Words to Know and Understand

Applicant – A person who signs up or asks for a job or a spot in something

Butcher – A person who cuts and sells meat

2

Learn About Comprehension Strategies

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

Why Readers Identify the Author's Purpose While Reading

Readers identify the author's purpose to understand why an author wrote the book. Authors write books because they want to persuade, inform, or entertain their readers.

When you read fiction (stories that are not real), the author usually includes a message or lesson that they want their readers to think about. When the author does this, they are trying to persuade you.

On the other hand, when you read nonfiction (books about real people, places, things, or events), the author answers questions about a specific topic. When the author does this, they are trying to inform you.

Author may try to entertain you by being funny, mysterious, or serious. Authors of both fiction and nonfiction can write to entertain you.

©BookPagez.com

Guided Reading Level

Activate Prior Knowledge

Author's Purpose Lesson Plan

Can I Be Your Dog?
By: Troy Cummings
Grade Level: 2 / Guided Reading Level: L

Identifying the Author's Purpose

3

Identify the Author's Purpose While Reading

- Think about what the author is trying to tell you or make you think about
- Did the author write this book to persuade, inform or entertain you?

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.

Page 7 – The Butcher tells Arfy that she has a "bone to pick" with him. Why do you think the author chose to use these words? How does thinking about this help you to understand the author's writing style?

Page 13 – In Arfy's letter to the Junkyard Guy, he says the past few days have been "Rough! Rough! RRRRRRRR-Rough!" Why do you think the author chose to use these words 3 times in a row? What does this tell you about how Arfy is feeling?

Page 17 – Arfy writes a letter to an abandoned house on Butternut Street. How does this letter help you to better understand how Arfy is feeling? What words does the author use to tell how he feels?

Page 26 – Arfy receives a letter from Mitzy. What question does it ask him? Why do you think the author wrote the story this way? What message is he trying to tell you?

Page 33 – The last page of this book shares some information on how to help homeless animals. What can you learn from this page? What was the author's purpose for writing this story?

4

Notice the Work You Did While Reading

- Think
- Talk
- Reflect
- Write

Time to Reflect

Think – Troy Cummings is the author of *Can I Be Your Dog?* What was his purpose for writing this book? Did he write the book to persuade, inform, or entertain you? How do you know?

Talk – Tell your reading partner what this book made you think about. What message did the authors share with you? Write a question to ask your partner to share their thoughts about the book.

Reflect – Think about what you learned while reading *Can I Be Your Dog?* Think about the things you and your reading partner discussed. How does identifying the author's purpose 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 *Can I Be Your Dog?* (Remember to include examples from the book!)

©BookPagez.com

Page by Page Guide and Strategy Questions

Turn, Talk, and Reflect

Key Vocabulary

Explanation of Strategy

Can I Be Your Dog?
By: Troy Cummings
Grade Level: 2 / Guided Reading Level: L

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

Arfy is a kind and loving dog who really wants a family and a place to call home. Arfy wanders down Butternut Street, writing letters to everyone asking, "Can I be your dog?" Arfy writes to the people in the yellow house, the fire station, and even the junkyard—but nobody says that they want to be his owner. Poor Arfy feels very sad and lonely, and curls up in a cardboard box in an alley to sleep. Then, just when he had given up hope, he wakes up to find a letter taped to his box. But who sent it... and what does it say?

2

Learn About Comprehension Strategies

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

3

Make Inferences While Reading

- Look for clues that tell you how a character might be feeling or what they might be thinking
- Study the pictures. What do you notice about the character, setting, and events?

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.

Page 2 – Arfy writes his first letter to the people at the yellow house. Use the words and picture to make an inference about what kind of home Arfy wants. Why do you think so?

Page 13 and 14 – Arfy writes a letter to the junkyard guy. Use the text and illustration to make an inference about why this is his "best-to-last choice." What clues in the illustration help you with your inference? How does this letter help you understand how Arfy is feeling?

Pages 21 and 22 – There are no words on these pages. Use the illustrations to make an inference about how Arfy is feeling. How do the colors on these pages help you to understand Arfy's feelings?

Page 26 and 30 – Arfy runs to Mitzy Whipple. Use the illustration to infer how Arfy feels when he sees her. What does his reaction tell you? Why do you think the letter carrier wanted to be his owner?

4

Notice the Work You Did While Reading

- Think
- Talk
- Reflect
- Write

Time to Reflect

Think – What types of inferences did you make while reading *Can I Be Your Dog?* Did you make inferences to understand new words? Did you infer to understand how a character feels or event? How do you know? What clues in the illustration helped you with your inference? How does making inferences help you to be a better reader?

Talk – Tell your reading partner about the best inference you made while reading this book. Explain why your inference was so helpful to you as a reader. Remember to ask your partner to share their thoughts about the book.

Reflect – Think about the extra information you learned while making inferences in *Can I Be Your Dog?* What was easy about making inferences? What was difficult? How does making inferences 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 *Can I Be Your Dog?* (Remember to include examples from the book!)

©BookPagez.com

Can I Be Your Dog?
By: Troy Cummings
Grade Level: 2 / Guided Reading Level: L

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

Arfy is a kind and loving dog who really wants a family and a place to call home. Arfy wanders down Butternut Street, writing letters to everyone asking, "Can I be your dog?" Arfy writes to the people in the yellow house, the fire station, and even the junkyard—but nobody says that they want to be his owner. Poor Arfy feels very sad and lonely, and curls up in a cardboard box in an alley to sleep. Then, just when he had given up hope, he wakes up to find a letter taped to his box. But who sent it... and what does it say?

2

Learn About Comprehension Strategies

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

3

Make Predictions While Reading

- Look for clues that tell you what a character might do next
- Look for clues that tell you about big events that might be coming up next

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.

Page 2 – Based on what you have read so far, what do you predict this story might be about? How does your prediction help you as a reader?

Pages 7 and 10 – Arfy has not found an owner yet. Make a prediction about what will happen next. Why does your prediction make sense?

Page 14 – Look at the illustration and make a prediction about the junkyard guy. Do you predict that he will want Arfy? Why or why not? How does this prediction help you to better understand how Arfy is feeling?

Page 23 – Arfy wakes up to find a letter. Use the illustration to make a prediction. What will this letter say? Why do you think so?

Pages 26 and 27 – Mitzy is writing of the big blue mailbox. Predict whether Arfy will show up or not. Why does your prediction make sense? How does answering this question help you understand the message of the story?

4

Notice the Work You Did While Reading

- Think
- Talk
- Reflect
- Write

Time to Reflect

Think – Think about the reasons why some of the predictions you made while reading *Can I Be Your Dog?* were correct and why others were incorrect. What was easy about making predictions? What was difficult? How does making predictions 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 *Can I Be Your Dog?* (Remember to include examples from the book!)

©BookPagez.com

Answer Key for Making Predictions with Can I Be Your Dog?

How does your prediction help you to better understand how Arfy is feeling?

Page 2: Based on what you have read so far, what do you predict this story might be about?

Pages 7 and 10: Arfy has not found an owner yet. Make a prediction about what will happen next.

Page 14: Look at the illustration and make a prediction about the junkyard guy. Do you predict that he will want Arfy? Why or why not?

Name: _____

Answer Key for Identifying the Author's Purpose with Can I Be Your Dog?

What words does the author use to tell how he feels?

Page 7: The Butcher tells Arfy that she has a "bone to pick" with him. Why do you think the author chose to use these words?

Page 13: In Arfy's letter to the Junkyard Guy, he says the past few days have been "Rough! Rough! RRRRRRRR-Rough!" Why do you think the author chose to use these words 3 times in a row? What does this tell you about how Arfy is feeling?

Page 17: Arfy writes a letter to an abandoned house on Butternut Street. How does this letter help you to better understand how Arfy is feeling? What words does the author use to tell how he feels?

Page 26: Arfy receives a letter from Mitzy. What question does it ask him? Why do you think the author wrote the story this way? What message is he trying to tell you?

Page 33: The last page of this book shares some information on how to help homeless animals. What can you learn from this page? What was the author's purpose for writing this story?

Name: _____

Making Inferences

Making Predictions

Practice Pages and Answer Keys

WRITING ABOUT READING WITH OPTIONAL CCSS ALIGNMENT

Can I Be Your Dog?: Identifying the Author's Purpose

The author wrote this story to help people understand that we should take good care of animals. Think about one of the people Arfy wrote a letter to. Now pretend you are writing a letter to that person. Tell them why they should say yes to Arfy and give him a home.

I can remember and tell different kinds of stories and share what the author is trying to teach. CCSS: RL.2.2

Can I Be Your Dog?: Identifying the Author's Purpose

The author wrote this story to help people understand that we should take good care of animals. Think about one of the people Arfy wrote a letter to. Now pretend you are writing a letter to that person. Tell them why they should say yes to Arfy and give him a home.

I can remember and tell different kinds of stories and share what the author is trying to teach. CCSS: RL.2.2

Can I Be Your Dog?: Identifying the Author's Purpose

The author wrote this story to help people understand that we should take good care of animals. Think about one of the people Arfy wrote a letter to. Now pretend you are writing a letter to that person. Tell them why they should say yes to Arfy and give him a home.

I can remember and tell different kinds of stories and share what the author is trying to teach. CCSS: RL.2.2

Reader's Notebook: Comprehension Strategy Slips (CCSS) | ©BookPagez.com

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

Identifying the Author's Purpose

Title: _____

Who is the author of your book?

What was the author's purpose for writing this book? How do you know?

To Persuade To Inform To Entertain

I know the author wanted to _____ me because _____

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.

Comprehension Strategy Graphic Organizer | ©BookPagez.com

Author's Purpose

Making Inferences

Title: _____

What the Text Says	What I Know	What I Can Infer
<small>Name a clue in the text that you know from the picture.</small>	<small>What do you know about the clue?</small>	<small>Explain, thought, or conclusion.</small>

Draw a picture to illustrate your inference:

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.

Comprehension Strategy Graphic Organizer | ©BookPagez.com

Making Inferences

Making Predictions

Title: _____

I predict ...

My prediction was

Correct Incorrect

I know because _____

Here is a picture about my prediction:

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.

Comprehension Strategy Graphic Organizer | ©BookPagez.com

Making Predictions