

COMPREHENSION STRATEGY LESSON PLANS AND PRACTICE PAGES

The following preview shows all of the comprehension strategy resources for *The Biggest Valentine Ever* by Steven Kroll

Retelling & Summarizing Lesson Plan

The Biggest Valentine Ever
By: Steven Kroll
Grade Level: 1 / Guided Reading Level: J

Retelling and Summarizing

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

The Biggest Valentine Ever tells the story of two mouse friends, Clayton and Desmond, who want to make the best Valentine's Day card for their teacher, Mrs. Mousely. At first, they are excited and full of ideas. But soon, they begin to argue about how the valentine should look. Their fight grows bigger, and the friends decide to work alone instead of together. Both mice feel sad and frustrated as they try to finish their valentines by themselves. As Valentine's Day gets closer, Clayton and Desmond must decide what really matters most—and whether they can fix their friendship in time.

Link to What You Know

- Think about a time when you needed advice. Who did you go to for help?
- Have you ever worked with another classmate on a project at school? Tell about it.

Important Words to Know and Understand

Heads Together – Working together to come up with a plan

Love Dolly – A small, pretty paper used to decorate

2

Learn About Comprehension Strategies

- Think about the text you read 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

Activate Prior Knowledge

Page by Page Guide and Strategy Questions

Turn, Talk, and Reflect

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Retelling and Summarizing

3

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 3 and 4 – These pages tell about Clayton and Desmond and the setting of the story. Who are Clayton and Desmond? Where does this story take place? How does answering these questions help you as a reader?

Pages 11 to 13 – Clayton is sad on these pages. What is he sad about? How does his dad try to help him with his problem? How does answering this question help you better understand the story?

Pages 18 to 20 – While Clayton tries to make a valentine on his own, so does Desmond. What problem does Desmond have when he tries to make a valentine? What do you think the reason for his problem might be?

Pages 23 and 24 – Clayton and Desmond end their fight. How do they solve their problem? What details in the text help you with your answer?

Page 31 – Clayton and Desmond give Mrs. Mousely the best valentine ever. Is this a good ending to the story? Why or why not? What lesson can you learn from the story?

Retell and Summarize While Reading

- Think about the important events that happened first, next, then, and last
- Notice the names of the characters and
- Look for places where characters caused events to happen

4

Notice the Work You Did While Reading

- Think
- Talk
- Reflect
- Write

Time to Reflect

Think – What type of information did you use when you retold and summarized *The Biggest Valentine Ever*? 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, the events. Explain why the part you chose was your favorite. Remember to ask your partner to share their thoughts about the book too.

The Biggest Valentine Ever. 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 *The Biggest Valentine Ever*. (Remember to include examples from the book!)

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Understanding Text Structure

1

Get Ready To Read

- Learn about the book
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Summary

The Biggest Valentine Ever tells the story of two mouse friends, Clayton and Desmond, who want to make the best Valentine's Day card for their teacher, Mrs. Mousely. At first, they are excited and full of ideas. But soon, they begin to argue about how the valentine should look. Their fight grows bigger, and the friends decide to work alone instead of together. Both mice feel sad and frustrated as they try to finish their valentines by themselves. As Valentine's Day gets closer, Clayton and Desmond must decide what really matters most—and whether they can fix their friendship in time.

Link to What You Know

- Think about a time when you had a problem to solve. What did you do?
- Tell about a time when you had a big problem to solve. What did you do?

Important Words to Know and Understand

Awful – Having one feel or act as if

Delight – A feeling of great happiness or joy

2

Learn About Comprehension Strategies

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

Why Readers Notice Text Structure While Reading

Readers pay attention to text structure because understanding how text is organized will help you become a better reader. Authors use the following text structures:

Description – when a person, place, thing, or event is described by telling what it looks like, how it works, or what it does.

Sequence – when information is given in chronological order (first, next, then, last) or in order of importance.

Problem and Solution – when a problem is explained and a solution is discovered.

Cause and Effect – when an author writes about the way two or more people, places, or things are alike and different (what caused something to happen and what happened because).

3

Understand Text Structure While Reading

Notice the Work You Did While Reading

- Think
- Talk
- Reflect
- Write

Time to Reflect

Think – How did the different text structures help you to better understand *The Biggest Valentine Ever*? Why do you think the author used more than one text structure when they tell about the story? Tell your reading partner about a place where you noticed a description. Explain how you knew the author was using a descriptive text structure.

Reflect – Think about the text structures in the *Biggest Valentine Ever*. How does paying attention to the way the author organizes text 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 *The Biggest Valentine Ever*. (Remember to include examples from the book!)

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Understanding Text Structure

Answer Key for Understanding Text Structure with the Biggest Valentine Ever

Pages 5 and 6: On these pages, the author uses a cause and effect text structure. What caused Clayton to become upset with Desmond?

Pages 9 and 10: What caused Desmond to become upset with Clayton?

Answer Key for Identifying the Author's Purpose with the Biggest Valentine Ever

Pages 7 and 8: On these pages, Clayton and Desmond get into an argument over the valentine. Why do you think the author chose to write this part of the story?

Answer Key for Retelling and Summarizing with the Biggest Valentine Ever

Pages 3 and 4: These pages tell about Clayton and Desmond and the setting of the story. Who are Clayton and Desmond? Where does this story take place?

Pages 11 to 13: Clayton is sad on these pages. What is he sad about? How does his dad try to help him with his problem?

Your Turn to Practice Understanding Text Structure with the Biggest Valentine Ever

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Identifying the Author's Purpose

Practice Pages and Answer Keys

WRITING ABOUT READING WITH OPTIONAL CCSS ALIGNMENT

Strategy and Text Based
Reader's Response Prompt

Common Core State Standard

"I Can"
Statement

The Biggest Valentine Ever: Understanding Text Structure

Clayton and Desmond have a problem in the story. What is the problem, and how do they fix it at the end? Choose 2 details from the story to help explain the problem and the solution.

☐ I can talk about the characters and setting and can tell about what happens in the stories I read. CCSS: RL.1.3

The Biggest Valentine Ever: Understanding Text Structure

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Common Core Free
Option

The Biggest Valentine Ever: Understanding Text Structure

Clayton and Desmond have a problem in the story. What is the problem, and how do they fix it at the end? Choose 2 details from the story to help explain the problem and the solution.

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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 _____ because _____.

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

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Making Inferences

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 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: _____	

Text Structures You Might See While Reading

Description	Sequence	Compare and Contrast	Cause and Effect

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

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Understanding
Text Structure