

Primary Teacher Ideas for *The Cat*

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Draw Comparisons

Compare (what is the same) and contrast (what is different) foster parents and other community helpers such as firefighters, doctors, crossing guards or police officers using a venn diagram.

Ask Questions

Warmup: Place an object in a box and have each student ask a question about what is in the box. Encourage questions that go deeper than yes/no answers. Students then guess at what is in the box.

Before reading: Read the title and show the front cover of *The Cat*. Have students ask questions about the story and record them on chart paper or blackboard.

During reading: Read *The Cat*, pausing after each page or two, and ask students for more questions.

After reading: Go back to the questions and answer them. Discuss whether the answer was given in the book, could be inferred from the story, could be answered using information from elsewhere or could not be answered.

Timeline

Create a timeline for one of the animals that the cat helped (rabbit, moose, racoon or ducklings). For children not yet reading, make a set of pictures that they can put in order.

Draw Illustrations

1. Read the story without showing the pictures.
2. Talk about what the cat and other animals are doing and what images spring to mind from the text.
3. Assign each student a page to illustrate. You may need to include title page, front and back inside of cover, and more than one image for some pages in order to have one for each child.

Forging Links

Before and during reading: Show the cover of *The Cat* and demonstrate making links with yourself, other texts, or other knowledge. At various points during reading, stop and make other links. Start

with: "This reminds me of . . ." or "That's just like the time . . ."

After reading: Have students "Think, Pair, Share" the links that they have made, again starting with "This reminds me of . . ."



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