

Book Club Groups

A Four-Blocks Guided Reading Strategy

“**guided reading** reading instruction in which the teacher provides the structure and purpose for reading and for responding to the material read. *Note*: Most basal reading programs have guided reading lessons.” (p. 102)

T.L. Harris & R.E. Hodges (Eds.). (1995). *The Literacy Dictionary*. Newark, DE: International Reading Association.

Three Ways to Teach Guided Reading

- The Leveled-Groups Way (Each leveled group meets with the teacher while the other students are occupied with independent work)
- The Single-Level Way (All the students are taught at the same time using a grade-level book)
- The Four-Blocks Way (The teacher uses a variety of large- and small-group formats to make guided reading more multilevel)

Guided Reading the Four-Blocks Way:

- Is not whole-group instruction.
- Does not group by reading level.
- Uses a variety of “during” reading formats to make guided reading multilevel.

“Guided Reading” the Four Blocks Way always has three phases:

Before

During

After

Before Reading Activities

Teach Comprehension Skills and Strategies

- Picture Walk
- Previewing
- Predicting
- Think-Alouds
- Begin a KWL Charts (K, W)
- Graphic Organizers (Web, Venn Diagram, Comparison Chart)
- Story Maps
- Rivet, Work on Vocabulary needed for these selections
- Anticipation Guides

During Reading Formats

- Shared Reading
- Choral Reading
- Echo Reading
- ERT...
- Partner Reading
- Playschool Groups or Reading Teams
- Three-Ring Circus
- You'se Choose
- Coaching Groups
- **Book Club Groups***
- Literature Circles
- Pick-A-Page

Can use bookmarks, sticky notes and highlighters

For Book Club Groups

The teacher collects 5-7 copies of 4 different books. The books have the same author, theme, or strategy to be taught.

Each group reads a book. The books are on different levels----usually, one is “hard”, two are “average”, and one is “easier”---- and then reports to the whole class.

After Reading Activities

Teach Comprehension Skills and Strategies

- Were predictions right? Why or why not
- Finish KWL Chart (L)
- Finish Graphic Organizers filling in the web, Venn Diagram, or Comparison Chart
- Fill in a Story Map
- Toss the Beach Ball
- Go over the Anticipation Guides
- “Doing the Book”
- Group Discussions
- Writing
- Drawing
- Souvenirs

Dr. Seuss Book Club Groups

First Day

- Before---teacher does a book talk on each of the four books
- During ---children preview the books, reading a page of each book
- After---children choose book (writing first, second and third choice)

Dr Seuss Book Club Groups

Second Day

- Before ---the teacher tells them to take a picture walk and predict what the book will be about
- During ---the children read the book, a page each, the “teacher” in the group leads the activity (Grade 1 may be “echo” reading after the “teacher”)
- After ---the children in the book discuss the book with the “teacher” who will tell the class what the book is about and their favorite part.

Text-to-Self

- **Whole class Introductory Lesson:**
Chrysanthemum by Kevin Henkes (Mulberry, 1991)
- **Before:** Discuss text-to-self connections and give an example of one for the children
- **During:** Read *Chrysanthemum* and have the children think about how she felt about her name
- **After:** Discuss any text-to-self connections any students had

Book Club Groups –D. Hall and Cece Tillman

Chapter 1: Introduction

Chapter 2: Book Club Groups by Author

Marc Brown (Arthur) Eve Bunting
Tomie dePaola Kevin Henkes
Arnold Lobel Laura Numeroff
Peggy Parrish (Amelia Bedelia)
Patricia Pollaco Cynthia Rylant (Henry And Mudge)

Chapter 3: Book Club Groups to Teach Comprehension

Chapter 4: Social Studies Topics:

Chapter 5: Science Topic:

Suggested Books for Book Club Groups on Text-to-Self Connections

Ira Sleeps Over by Bernard Waber (Scott Foresman, 1975) (RL: 3.5)
The Snowy Day by Ezra Jack Keats (Viking, 1981) (RL: 3.2)
When I Get Bigger by Mercer Mayer (Golden Books, 1986) (RL: 2.5)
Little Critter This is My School by Mercer Mayer (Goldencraft, 1990) (RL: 2.5)
Just Me and My Mom by Mercer Mayer (Goldencraft, 1990) (RL: 1.9)
My Great Aunt Arizona by Gloria Houston (HarperTrophy, 1997) (RL: 3.5)
Now One Foot, Now the Other by Tomie dePaola (Putnam, 1991)(RL: 2.5)
Oliver Button is a Sissy by Tomie dePaola (Voyager, 1990) (RL: 2.8)
The Art Lesson by Tomie de Paola (Scott Foresman, 1997) (RL: 2.5)
Birthday Presents by Cynthia Rylant (Orchard, 1991) (RL: 2.8)
Roxaboxen by Alice McLerran (Lothrop Lee & Shepard, 1991) (RL: 4.3)

Writing and Drawing

- Connecting
- Predicting/Anticipating
- Summarizing/Concluding
- Questioning/Monitoring
- Imaging/Inferring
- Evaluating/Applying

Quickwrites/Quickdraws

Sticky notes, Bookmarks, Index cards,
Reading Response logs

In first grade Book Club Groups
can be done at the end of the year.

Any other grade level can do Book
Club Groups once some basic
procedure are taught to the class.
