

Books for Young Learners Teacher Resource

Book Notes

**A Small Sailboat**

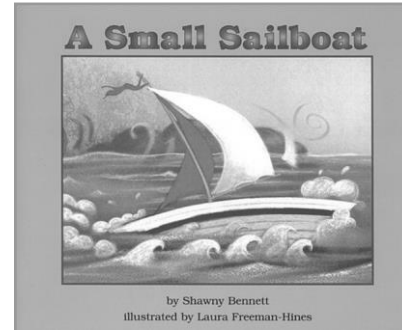
Author Shawny Bennett

Illustrator Laura Freeman-Hines

16 pages ■ 132 words

Fountas and Pinnell Level I

Intervention Level 16



A Small Sailboat

SYNOPSIS

A toy boat gets tossed in a storm until its owner comes to the rescue.

WHAT THE BOOK OFFERS

- Realistic fiction
- Past tense
- Descriptive
- Range of text placement
- “Storm” vocabulary
- Some language will be unfamiliar to many—“surely doomed”
- Compound words
- Illustration/text match

POSSIBLE SKILLS EMPHASIS

- Structural analysis
- Past tense
- Topic-specific vocabulary
- It-its

INTRODUCING THE BOOK

The title tells us this is a small sailboat. What else can you learn about the boat from the cover? What is unusual about it?

What else might the author have called this boat?

How would you describe the water? What does that lead you to anticipate about what you might read?

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A Small Sailboat (continued)

FOCUS OF INSTRUCTION

Pages 2 and 3: *What does the word “blew” tell you about this text?*

What three things on this page confirm that the wind was strong?

Pages 4 and 5: *Which word on this page confirms that this is something that has already happened?*

Which words have had an ending added to them?

What does this page lead you to expect?

Pages 6 and 7: *The author is describing the storm in lots of detail. Which words on this page help you know what the storm was like?*

What might happen to the boat? Read on to see if you have made a good prediction.

Pages 10 and 11: *What does the word “almost” tell you? So what does that lead you to expect?*

Are there any “storm” words to add to our list?

Page 12: *What has the author left for you to add to this page?*

Pages 14 and 15: *What does “surely doomed” mean?*

Who or what is being called?

What do you expect the last page to tell you?

FOLLOWING THE READING

- Discuss whether or not the ending was as expected. Discuss other books with a surprise ending.
- Reread the book to check for other “storm” words and add students’ suggestions to the list. Display these for future use.
- Draw and label different kinds of boats.

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A Small Sailboat (continued)

Additional Comprehension Prompts For Oral or Written Use Before, During, and After Reading	
FINISH THIS THOUGHT	<i>Sailboats are called sailboats because . . . In this story, Nick was sailing his toy sailboat in a . . . and if his Dad hadn't called him in, Nick might have . . .</i>
USE YOUR MEMORY	<i>What did the waves do to the small sailboat? How do you know? What was this book really about?</i>
WHAT'S YOUR OPINION?	<i>Do you think there really was a bad storm outside while Nick's toy sailboat was in the small pool? What makes you think that? How do you think Nick felt when his Dad called him to come in?</i>
BE CREATIVE	<i>Learn more about sailboats from a library book or online. What are all the different parts of a sailboat? When you know, draw a picture of a sailboat that you might like to have someday. What color would the hull be? What color would the sails and the flag be? Would you put a name on the side of your sailboat? Label all the parts of your sailboat. Smooth sailing!</i>
VOCABULARY AGENT	<i>Can you find words in this story that rhyme with each of the words below?</i> *tall *pick *loomed *bossed *cool *sifted *mad *sipped *quack *rake

Book Note by Margaret E. Mooney

Additional Comprehension Prompts by Dr. Connie Hebert

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