

Books for Young Learners Teacher Resource

Book Notes

**Camel Ben**

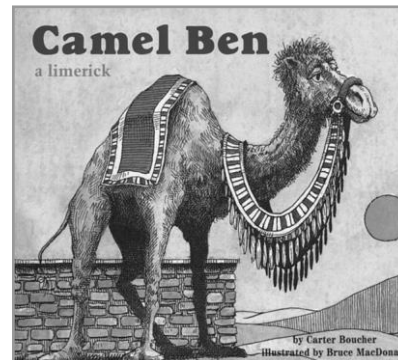
Author Carter Boucher

Illustrator Bruce MacDonald

8 pages ■ 32 words

Fountas and Pinnell Level F

Intervention Level 9



Camel Ben

SYNOPSIS

A limerick telling how a camel became multi-humped.

WHAT THE BOOK OFFERS

- Fiction fantasy
- Limerick
- Humor
- Rhyme, different letter patterns
- Punctuation of verse
- Rhythm

POSSIBLE SKILLS EMPHASIS

- Understanding of rhyme as not necessarily/not only repeated letter patterns
- Identifying rhyming elements
- Understanding how rhythm encourages prediction, expression, and fluency
- Nonsensical content requires detailed checking beyond meaning

INTRODUCING THE BOOK

- Use the cover illustration to ask what distinguishes camels from other animals. Use the Nonfiction Note on the inside front cover to add to or confirm information.
- Establish what is known about a limerick; start a list of features to be extended

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Camel Ben (continued)

FOCUS OF
INSTRUCTION

Page 4: *Why did the author write this sentence this way? Why didn't he start the sentence with "Now and then"?*

Page 6: *Is this the same wall as on the cover? Is "tripped" the same as "fall"?*

- Discuss what might cause the camel to trip and what might cause it to fall. Compare with students tripping and falling.

FOLLOWING THE
READING

- Add to pairs of rhyming words.
- Extend list of features of limericks and use it to create limericks (probably as a group rather than individually)

Additional Comprehension Prompts For Oral or Written Use Before, During, and After Reading	
FINISH THIS THOUGHT	<i>Ben was a camel who . . . Camels are useful in the desert because they . . .</i>
USE YOUR MEMORY	<i>What is a limerick? If you don't remember, look in the inside front cover. Why are camels able to travel long and far across hot deserts? If you don't remember why, where can you look to find the answer?</i>
WHAT'S YOUR OPINION?	<i>Why do you think Camel Ben would trip and fall sometimes? Do you think Ben is a good name for this camel? If so, why? If not, what would you name him and why?</i>
BE CREATIVE	<i>Pretend that Camel Ben can talk and you want to interview him for your radio show. Your show is all about animals. Write 5 questions you want to ask Ben so your audience learns a lot about camels? What do you think Ben's answers would be?</i>
VOCABULARY AGENT	<i>Make a list of everything you see in the picture on page 5. Make a list of everything you see in the picture on page 8. What things in your lists did you see in both pictures?</i>