

## Books for Young Learners Teacher Resource

## Book Notes

**My Little Brother Ben / Mi hermanito Ben**

Author Karen Cogan

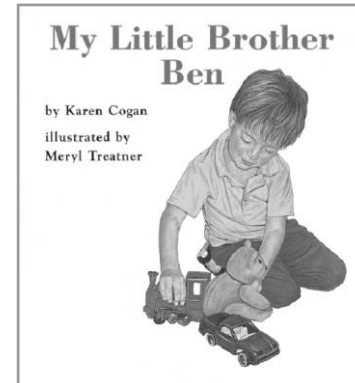
Illustrator Meryl Treatner

12 pages ■ 35 Eng. words ■ 36 Spn. words

Fountas and Pinnell Level D

Reading Recovery Level 7

Descubriendo la Lectura Level 5



My Little Brother Ben

**SYNOPSIS**

The ups and downs of big brother and little brother.

**WHAT THE BOOK OFFERS**

- Realistic fiction
- First person
- Past tense
- Three-page pattern
- Alternating characters ■

Pronouns: I, he

**POSSIBLE SKILLS EMPHASIS**

- Constancy of text
- Understanding pattern and how it supports reading
- Working for accuracy
- Word endings, especially *-ed* and *-t* (past tense)

**INTRODUCING THE BOOK***Who is going to be telling this story? How do you know that?**Do you think the person in the cover illustration is the “my” person or the little brother? How could you check? (use title page) What other words go with “my”?**What could the author use instead of little brother?**What would it be if it were little sister?**Let’s find out what we can about this little brother.*

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#### FOCUS OF INSTRUCTION

■ Pages 2 through 4: After reading the first three pages, discuss whether it is something that we know happens every day or was it something that may have happened once. Discuss pattern of the incident. Check understanding of “I” and “he.” Pages 5 through 7: *Let’s read the next three pages.*

*What do you notice? What has changed? What stayed the same in the text and the illustrations? What about the boys’ reactions? Let’s look at the next incident.*

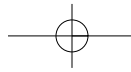
#### FOLLOWING THE READING

*How did the author make it easy for us to read this book?*

*Even if you thought you knew what words the author wrote, why did you need to check?*

*Which words told you what happened? What word did the author use instead of always saying “my little brother?”*

■ Discuss and list common pronouns.



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<b>Additional Comprehension Prompts</b> <b>For Oral or Written Use Before, During, and After Reading</b>	
<b>FINISH THIS THOUGHT</b>	<i>Ben was crying because . . . When someone reads me a story, I feel . . . because . . .</i>
<b>USE YOUR MEMORY</b>	<i>What did Ben's brother build first? Then what did Ben's brother build? Then what did Ben's brother do?</i>
<b>WHAT'S YOUR OPINION?</b>	<i>Why did Ben knock down his brother's tower and bridge? Why did Ben smile after his brother read him a story?</i>
<b>BE CREATIVE</b>	<i>If Ben's brother was your friend, what would you tell him about little brothers?</i>
<b>VOCABULARY AGENT</b>	<i>Use the following words in a sentence:</i>

Book Note by Margaret E. Mooney  
 Additional Comprehension Prompts by Dr. Connie Hebert  
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