

Books for Young Learners Teacher Resource

Book Notes



Sunflowers / Girasoles

Author Janice Boland

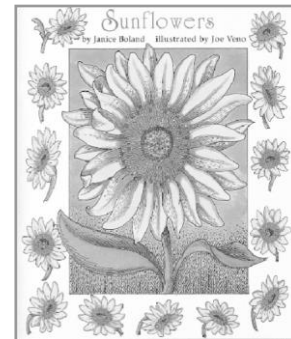
Illustrator Joe Veno

8 pages ■ 33 Eng. words ■ 42 Spn. Words

Fountas and Pinnell Level E

Intervention Level 4

Descubriendo la Lectura Level 4



Sunflowers

SYNOPSIS

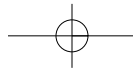
Seed dispersal by animals ensures more sunflowers the next year.

WHAT THE BOOK OFFERS

- Nonfiction expository cyclic text
- Third person
- Present tense
- Attention to word endings—singular and plural
- Compound words
- Repeated pattern over three pages, two times
- Rhythm
- Rhyme set out in story/book form

POSSIBLE SKILLS EMPHASIS

- Vocabulary development: here, there, everywhere—meaning, common elements
- Compound words: everywhere, sunflower
- Identifying and understanding a pattern
- Identifying rhythm



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Sunflowers / Girasoles (continued)

INTRODUCING THE BOOK

Work toward an understanding of nonfiction: *Why do you think there is one large sunflower and several smaller ones surrounding it? What could that mean for the way the author will share the information?*

Where are the sunflower's seeds?

- "Sunflower" as compound word

FOCUS OF INSTRUCTION

- Identifying pattern and rhythm
- Draw the children's attention to similarities between pages 2 and 3.

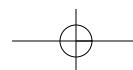
Then what might follow "here" and "there"?

These three pages form a pattern. Look at page 6. If this begins the repeat of the pattern, think about what pages 7 and 8 will say. Now read those pages.

This book is like a poem written as a book. As we reread the book, notice the rhythm. Which parts can you read like a poem or a song?

FOLLOWING THE READING

- Vocabulary development
- Using "here, there, and everywhere," develop a three-line or -page rhyme or verse. This should be done as a shared effort before expecting children to use the structure independently.



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Additional Comprehension Prompts For Oral or Written Use Before, During, and After Reading	
FINISH THIS THOUGHT	<i>Sunflower seeds are . . . People like sunflowers because they . . .</i>
USE YOUR MEMORY	<i>Where was the squirrel when he dropped a sunflower seed? What happened to the seed the squirrel dropped? How do you know?</i>
WHAT'S YOUR OPINION?	<i>Why do birds drop sunflower seeds everywhere? Do you think that every sunflower seed that falls on the ground turns into a sunflower plant? Why or why not?</i>
BE CREATIVE	<i>Design a birdfeeder that won't let sunflower seeds fall to the ground. Label each part of your birdfeeder and be sure to show birds eating from it. What kinds of birds will your feeder attract?</i>
VOCABULARY AGENT	<i>The words 'sunflower' and 'everywhere' are compound words. What other words can you make out of the following: *sun *flower *every *where</i>