

Books for Young Learners Teacher Resource

Book Notes



Little Puffer Fish

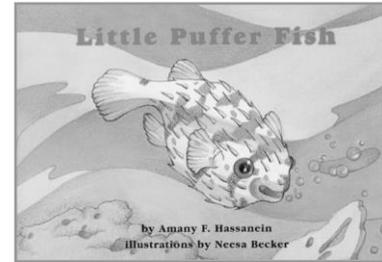
Author Amany F. Hassanein

Illustrator Neesa Becker

12 pages ■ 133 words

Fountas and Pinnell Level H

Reading Recovery Level 14



Little Puffer Fish

SYNOPSIS

An explanation of how a little fish avoided being eaten by a larger one.

WHAT THE BOOK OFFERS

- Nonfiction expository
- Third person
- Past tense
- Longer sentences with varied structures
- Open-ended
- Detailed writing: simile, double adjective, explanations

POSSIBLE SKILLS EMPHASIS

- Maintains meaning and fluency over longer sentences
- Understands that the same word can have two meanings
- Gathering information
- Identifying problem and solution
- Summarizing

INTRODUCING THE BOOK

I wonder how it came to be called a puffer fish. What do you notice from the cover illustration that is different from most

other fish?

Well, I wonder what puffer and spikes have to do with each other. Let's see what the author tells us.

But first, is there any other information we can gather from the cover illustration or the title page?

Books for Young Learners Teacher Resource**Book Notes****Little Puffer Fish** (continued)**FOCUS OF INSTRUCTION**

Page 3, before turning to page 4: *What has the author set for us here? So what might the rest of the book tells us?* (problem/solution)

How might Little Puffer Fish escape? Apart from one being a big fish and one a little one, what other differences do you notice between the two fish on page 3?

Page 4: *How did the author describe how fast the fish swam? Can you think of a simile to describe how the little fish might be feeling?*

Page 8: *How would you describe the difference in the feelings of the two fish at this point?*

Page 11: *Why is there a hyphen in "puffed-up"?* (If the students have read *The Super-Duper Sandwich*, you can make a link to it.)

FOLLOWING THE READING

How do you think the puffer fish got back to normal size? Could you write that as a problem and solution?

How could you tell someone about the puffer fish escaping from the big fish in just two or three sentences?

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Little Puffer Fish (continued)

Additional Comprehension Prompts For Oral or Written Use Before, During, and After Reading	
FINISH THIS THOUGHT	<i>The inside front cover of this book tells the reader . . . The inside back cover of this book tells the reader . . .</i>
USE YOUR MEMORY	<i>Tell two facts about the puffer fish that you learned from the Nonfiction Note on the inside back cover. Where can you look to see if you remembered the facts correctly? How did the big fish swim when he first saw the little puffer fish? Check page 4 and see if you got it right. If you didn't get it right, remember to THINK while you are reading. Then you will remember lots of things after you read books.</i>
WHAT'S YOUR OPINION?	<i>Why didn't the hungry big fish eat the puffer fish? Would you have eaten the puffer fish if you were the big fish? Why or why not? Why do you think the little puffer fish gulped so much water? Do you think he stayed puffy after the big fish swam away? Why or why not?</i>
BE CREATIVE	<i>Write a play about the hungry big fish and the little puffer fish. Be sure you have lines for a narrator. What will the big fish say and do in your play? What will the little puffer fish say and do in your play? What will the narrator want the audience to know? When you're done, ask 3 friends to read your play aloud to see if it makes sense and looks right. Fix anything that needs to be fixed. Then maybe you can all perform it!</i>
VOCABULARY AGENT	<i>Stories are made up of words. Make a list of your favorite words in this story. Tell why they are your favorite words. Add three more words that you think might make this story better or more exciting.</i>

Book Note by Margaret E. Mooney

Additional Comprehension Prompts by Dr. Connie Hebert

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