

## Books for Young Learners Teacher Resource

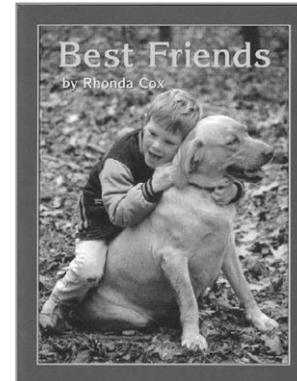
# Book Notes



### Best Friends / Los mejores amigos

Author and Photographer Rhonda Cox

16 pages ■ wordless



Best Friends

#### SYNOPSIS

Wordless photographic story of the love and friendship between a young boy and his dog and of the joy that new puppies bring.

#### WHAT THE BOOK OFFERS

- Nonfiction recount
- Sequence of photographs recounting the ups and downs of loving a dog
- Photographs conveying mood as well as describing incidents
- A framework for oral and written activities

#### POSSIBLE SKILLS EMPHASIS

- Identifying sequence
- Selecting vocabulary to match photographs
- Using photographs as planning structure for creating a story

*How does the photograph tell you more about the title and about what you will probably think about in this book?*

#### INTRODUCING THE BOOK

*What words come into your head about how the boy is feeling? And what about the dog?*

*The author has provided a series of photographs for you to create your own story about this boy and his dog. If we turn to the back cover, we can discover the names of the dog and the boy. But you might like to choose your own names.*

## Books for Young Learners Teacher Resource

# Book Notes



### Best Friends (continued)

#### FOCUS OF INSTRUCTION

Pages 2 and 3: *These four photographs go together. Think about where the boy and his dog are, what is happening, and what they might be saying to each other. What has the photographer left you to think about at the end of the page?*

Pages 4 to 5: *How do we know that these incidents were at different times than those on pages 2 and 3? What do you think the boy is thinking about or saying to his friend?*

Pages 6 to 7: *Things have changed here. How do we know? I wonder why the boy is so serious.*

Pages 8 to 9: *And look at the dog. What is she thinking? Does her expression match that of the boy?*

Pages 10 and 11: *Do the photographs on these pages cause you to rethink some of your ideas? What captions or sentences come into your head for your ideas about the book so far?*

Page 12: *What do you think is the significance of the photograph on the bottom of page 12? How does that fit with your story? I wonder what the boy is saying.*

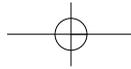
Page 13: *And what do you think the conversations on this page would be?*

Pages 14 and 15: *As you continue thinking about your story, think about the puppies' feelings and those of their mother.*

Page 16 and inside back cover: *How will your story end?*

#### FOLLOWING THE READING

- The students could tell their stories to the group, revising as appropriate, and then these could be recorded. Depending on the students' competence, their stories could be scribed for them or read onto a tape for reference as they write them or for others to listen to.
- A discussion about writing to a framework of photographs could include focusing on the importance of revising ideas and structures as more photographs are viewed. This could lead to a discussion about revision and the need to think continually about links and clarity for the readers.



## Books for Young Learners Teacher Resource

# Book Notes



### Best Friends (continued)

<b>Additional Comprehension Prompts For Oral or Written Use Before, During, and After Reading</b>	
<b>FINISH THIS THOUGHT</b>	<i>The dog is the boy's best friend because he . . . I think puppies are fun because they . . .</i>
<b>USE YOUR MEMORY</b>	<i>Is the dog male or female? How do you know? How many puppies were in the litter? How do you know?</i>
<b>WHAT'S YOUR OPINION?</b>	<i>Why do you think people like to have pets? What kind of animal do you think would NOT make a good pet?</i>
<b>BE CREATIVE</b>	<i>Pretend you are a teacher. Read <b>Best Friends</b> to your pretend class using all the pictures. Be sure to show the pictures as you talk about them.</i>
<b>VOCABULARY AGENT</b>	<i>On pages 4 &amp; 5, use describing words to tell how the boy and the dog feel in each picture. Hint: Look at their faces.</i>

Book Note by Margaret E. Mooney

Additional Comprehension Prompts by Dr. Connie Hebert

© 2016 by Richard C. Owen Publishers, Inc./www.RCOwen.com