

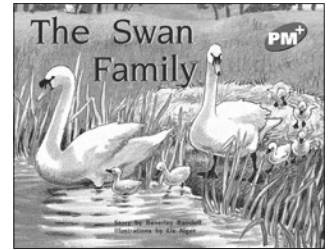
The Swan Family

PM Level 10

Blue

Text Type Narrative

Running Words 172



Preparing for Guided Reading

Orientation to the Text

- Re-read *Baby Hippo* (PM level 8). Discuss how the enraged mother is more than a match for the lions and hyenas as she rushes to defend her young.

Prior Knowledge

- This dramatic story of a Father Swan protecting his family, with his neck forward, feathers ruffled and wings spread out, is a factual text written in story form. The species described is the mute swan.

Key Language Structures

- Phrases that tell when or where add meaning to the verbs in the sentences.

Building the Balanced Reader

Vocabulary

Key High-frequency Words

babies, bigger, six, swan

Content Words

sticks, weeks

Decoding

- Recognises the high-frequency words in the text.
- Applies knowledge of sound-letter relationships to assist with decoding of unfamiliar words.

Fluency and Phrasing

- Adjusts the pace of reading to assist with fluency.
- Makes appropriate predictions about the text to assist with understanding.

Focusing on the Book – Guided Reading

- Read the title. Help students identify and name the members of the swan family: the cob (male – larger bulge above the bill), the pen (female), the cygnets.
- Discuss the illustration. (Cobs collect nest materials and pens arrange them. Nests are made on the bank of a river or pond.)
- A nest can be two metres across. Demonstrate a two-metre width.
- Discuss the cob's reasons for staying close.
- Count the cygnets. Notice how quickly they become dry and fluffy.

- Discuss the boy's actions. Observe the cob's immediate reactions.
- Cygnets are carried safely in this way. Discuss the family scene.
- Look at comparatives (*big, bigger, fast*), focusing on the word *very*, e.g. *very fast, very big*.

Comprehension

- What did Father Swan use to build the nest? (*Literal*)
- Why did the baby swans stay with Mother Swan in the nest? (*Inferential*)
- Why did Father Swan run at the boy? (*Inferential*)

Follow-up Activities

- Make a mural. Have students paint a landscape similar to the one in the book. Invite them to use natural materials for the nest. The swan family can be drawn, or cut out and pasted on. Ask students to write stories about the mural. Attach these around the outside edges.
- Recall Father Swan's dramatic defence of his family. Talk about other animals that also display strong protective instincts when caring for their young. Show students pictures to further encourage discussion. Write their ideas on a chart. Make little individual books for them. Ask them to write about their ideas in these books. Invite students to share their writing with others.

Learning Intentions

- We are learning to more accurately make predictions about events in the text.
- We are learning to recognise a variety of punctuation marks to assist with fluency when reading aloud.
- _____

Success Criteria

- I can more accurately make predictions about events in the text.
- I can recognise a variety of punctuation marks to improve the fluency of my oral reading.
- _____

Guided Reading Notes

Student's name	Reading focus	Observations/notes	For follow-up