

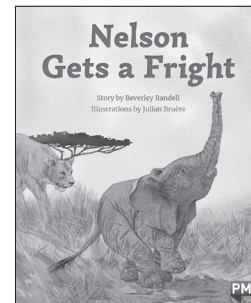
Nelson Gets a Fright

PM Level 19

Purple

Text Type Narrative

Running Words 387



Preparing for Guided Reading

Prior Knowledge

- Re-read *Nelson, the Baby Elephant, Rescuing Nelson and Elephants* (PM Turquoise).

Orientation to the Text

- *Nelson Gets a Fright* is the third story about a baby African elephant named Nelson. In this book, hungry lionesses appear all around Nelson one day, and he is very frightened. His family hear his cries and come charging to the rescue!
- The meticulous observations of Cynthia Moss, a zoologist, have increased everyone's understanding of elephant behaviour, and inspired these stories.

Building the Balanced Reader

Vocabulary

Key Vocabulary

enough, frightened, learning, mistake, months

Content Words

afterwards, bellowed, bite, charging, cousins, drank, fled, lioness, rescue, tear, trumpeted, wildebeest

Decoding

- Apply knowledge of phonics, prefixes, suffixes and scanning across words to assist students in decoding unfamiliar words.
- Observe students' ability to predict events in the text, and use strategies to integrate meaning, language structures and visual information as they read. Provide support when necessary.

Focusing on the Book – Guided Reading

- Read the title of the book, and the names of the author and the illustrator. Examine the cover illustration and discuss Nelson's body language.
- Explain to students that African elephants live in herds headed by the eldest female. Adult males roam alone.

- Read to page 4. Talk about baby Nelson's frustration as he tears at the grass.
- Discuss the sentence, *Nothing frightened him!* on page 7. Have students note the parallels between a young elephant's behaviour and their own.
- Continue to page 8. Encourage students to explain what the final sentence means.
- Read to page 13. Discuss how Nelson is in grave danger from the advancing lionesses who want to make a kill. Point out how the short sentences increase the story's tension. Read the word *bellowed* aloud.
- Read to the end of the text. Discuss the fact that lions never tackle a herd of adult elephants, so Nelson is safe once more.
- Talk about past-tense verbs, e.g. *drank, tried, shook, heard*.
- Discuss the words *herd* and *heard*. Ask students to use each word correctly in a sentence.
- Explain to students that the word *tear* can be pronounced in two different ways, although the spelling is the same. Provide examples.

Comprehension

- What did Nelson use his trunk for? (*Literal*)
- Why did the lionesses come between Nelson and his big sister? (*Inferential*)
- Why did the ground shake when the herd of elephants rushed to save Nelson? (*Inferential*)

Follow-up Activities

- Although this is a narrative text, encourage students to make a list of factual information from the story.
- Watch a video or internet clip showing elephants using their trunks to move heavy objects.

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Learning Intentions

- We are learning to apply knowledge of phonics, scanning across words and affixes to decode the text.
- We are learning to make predictions about the text and to use our knowledge of reading skills and strategies.

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Success Criteria

- I can use my knowledge of phonics, scanning across words and affixes to assist me in decoding the text.
- I can predict events in the text and use my knowledge of various reading skills and strategies to improve my understanding of the text.

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Guided Reading Notes

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