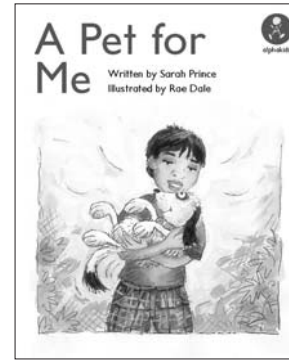


A Pet for Me

Written by Sarah Prince

Illustrated by Rae Dale



Getting ready for reading

Discuss: *Have you ever wanted a pet? Which one did you want? Why did you want it?*

Talking through the book

You might say: *This book is called 'A Pet for Me'. Ask: What do you think the book will be about? What type of book will it be – information or story?*
Turn through the book. You might say: *Which pet is the child thinking about here? What is hard about this pet?*

Reading the book

Children read the book independently while the teacher observes the children's reading behaviours.

Teaching opportunities

Select the most appropriate teaching focus for the learning needs of the group.

Being a meaning maker

Discuss these questions. Encourage children to support their responses with evidence from the book.

Which pets does the child think about getting?

Why didn't the child choose a turtle?

Which pet does the child finally decide to get?

Why do the child choose this pet?

Being a code breaker

Vocabulary

- High-frequency words: *a, for, me, says, I, can, have, don't, know, one, to, get, I, will, little, my, too, two, would, like, with*
- Word families: *cat – bat, chat, fat, hat, mat, pat, rat, sat, vat*
frog – bog, cog, dog, fog, hog, jog, log, Trog
mice – nice, spice, trice, ice
fish – wish, dish, swish

TEXT FEATURES

- **This book tells the thinking of a child who is trying to decide which pet to get.**
- **Extensive use of rhyming text.**
- **Text placed consistently on the page.**
- **Up to five lines of text per page.**
- **Line breaks support phrasing.**
- **Some of the story is carried in the illustrations.**

Sounds and letters

- Hearing words: Children can identify the rhyming words on each page.

Writing conventions

- Punctuation: capital letters, full stops, exclamation marks
- Grammar: contractions – *don't, it's*

Being a text user

Discuss:

Would this book help you to learn about pets? How?

Why type of text is it? Information? Narrative? Explanation?

Being a text critic

Discuss:

Are dogs the best pets for everyone? Why not cats or turtles?

Does everyone have a pet of his or her own?

Would this book be as interesting if it was not written in rhyme?

Literacy learning centres

Writing centre

Children make up and perform a television advertisement for each of the animals in the book. Explain that they need to describe the animals in a way that will make people want to buy them.

Interactive literacy centre

Have children work in cooperative groups to make an audiotape of the text as a choral reading or a rap. They will need to practise before taping the final performance.



Word centre

Children use the text to create a rhyming word chart using words from the book and other rhyming words from around the room, or as found in familiar texts.

Keeping track

Annotated work samples can be compared over a period of time to indicate progress and issues that need to be addressed.