

# Comprehension Strategy Lesson Plans and Practice Pages

The following preview shows all of the comprehension strategy resources for Jamie O' Rourke and the Big Potato by Tomie dePaola

## Synthesizing Lesson Plan

**Jamie O'Rourke and the Big Potato**  
By: Tomie dePaola  
Grade Level: 2 / Guided Reading Level: L

**Synthesizing**

**1**  
**Get Ready To Read**  
✓ Learn about the book  
✓ Get your brain ready to read  
✓ Understand the meaning of important words found in the book

**Summary**  
*Jamie O'Rourke and the Big Potato* is an Irish folktale. That means this is a story that has been passed down from generation to generation. In this folktale, Jamie O'Rourke is the laziest man in Ireland. He stays in bed while his wife, Eileen, does all the work and he never worries about anyone but himself. Then, one day, Eileen hurts herself and can't tend their garden. That means Jamie won't have any food to eat. Worried that he might starve to death, Jamie heads to church to talk to the priest. On his way he meets a magical leprechaun who grants Jamie a wish. Now it's up to Jamie to make a wish that's good enough to solve his problem.

**Link to What You Know**  
• What's your least favorite chore? What do you do when it's time to do that chore?  
• What's your opinion of lazy people? What's your opinion of people who work hard?

**Important Words to Know and Understand**  
**Read** - Worked on a garden with a hoe (a garden tool with a flat blade)  
**Ireland** - A country in Europe

**2**  
**Learn About Comprehension Strategies**  
✓ Know what to do when you get confused

**Why Readers Synthesize While Reading**  
Readers synthesize in order to deeply understand what they read. As readers learn new information about characters, topics, and events, their understanding of the text gets deeper. This happens because new information gets added to what they already know.

When you read fiction (stories that are not real), the author usually tells you a little bit about the characters, the setting, and the problem at the beginning of the book. As you read further, the author gives you more information. If you pay attention to what the author writes, you'll notice that your thoughts about a character or a problem will change over time.

On the other hand, when you read nonfiction (books about real people, places, things, or events), the author gives you specific information about a topic. You can add the new information to what you already know about a topic to become more of an expert on a specific topic.

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## Guided Reading Level

## Activate Prior Knowledge

## Synthesizing Lesson Plan

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**Synthesizing**

**3**  
**Synthesize While Reading**  
✓ Look for places where your opinion of a character changes  
✓ Notice when you learn something new about a character or a topic  
✓ Look for new words that change your understanding of the text

**Time to Read**  
Stop on the following pages. Think about the questions for each page. Then talk with a reading partner or write your thoughts down in your notebook.

**Page 2** - You've learned a lot about Jamie so far. What are some of Jamie's problems?

**Page 10** - Jamie has solved one of his problems. Which problem did he solve? How did he solve it? Do you agree with his solution? Why or why not?

**Page 14** - Jamie has another problem. What is his problem?

**Pages 20 and 21** - The villagers are mad at Jamie. Why are they mad? How are they going to solve this new problem? How does thinking about the problems in a story help you as a reader?

**Pages 26 and 27** - Now the villagers have a problem. What is their problem? How did they solve their problem?

**Time to Reflect**  
**Think** - How did your thinking change while you read *Jamie O'Rourke and the Big Potato*? What information helped you to gain a better understanding of the characters or the problem in the book?  
**Talk** - Tell your reading partner about a place where your thinking changed. Explain why your thinking changed.  
**Reflect** - Think about the synthesizing work you did while reading *Jamie O'Rourke and the Big Potato*. How does paying attention to the way your thinking changes across a text help you to be a better reader? Which reading comprehension strategies were most helpful to you as you read today?

**Write** - Give your Strategy/3p into your Reader's Notebook. Write about the work you did while reading *Jamie O'Rourke and the Big Potato*. (Remember to include examples from the book!)

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## Page by Page Guide and Strategy Questions

## Turn, Talk, and Reflect

**Jamie O'Rourke and the Big Potato**  
By: Tomie dePaola  
Grade Level: 2 / Guided Reading Level: L

**Making Predictions**

**1**  
**Get Ready To Read**  
✓ Learn about the book  
✓ Get your brain ready to read  
✓ Understand the meaning of important words found in the book

**3**  
**Make Predictions While Reading**  
✓ Look for clues that let you know what might happen next  
✓ Think about how the problem might be solved

**Time to Read**  
Stop on the following pages. Think about the questions for each page. Then talk with a reading partner or write your thoughts down in your notebook.

**Page 4** - Jamie hears a tapping sound. What do you predict the sound is?

**Pages 10 and 14** - Look at the pictures on these pages. What do you think Jamie is doing? How do you think he feels? What do you think the problem is?

**Page 20** - The villagers are mad at Jamie. How do you think they will solve this problem?

**Page 26** - The villagers have a problem. How do you think they will solve this problem?

**Time to Reflect**  
**Think** - How did your thinking change while you read *Jamie O'Rourke and the Big Potato*? What information helped you to gain a better understanding of the characters or the problem in the book?  
**Talk** - Tell your reading partner about a place where your thinking changed. Explain why your thinking changed.  
**Reflect** - Think about the making predictions work you did while reading *Jamie O'Rourke and the Big Potato*. How does paying attention to the way your thinking changes across a text help you to be a better reader? Which reading comprehension strategies were most helpful to you as you read today?

**Write** - Give your Strategy/3p into your Reader's Notebook. Write about the work you did while reading *Jamie O'Rourke and the Big Potato*. (Remember to include examples from the book!)

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**Jamie O'Rourke and the Big Potato**  
By: Tomie dePaola  
Grade Level: 2 / Guided Reading Level: L

**Visualizing**

**1**  
**Get Ready To Read**  
✓ Learn about the book  
✓ Get your brain ready to read  
✓ Understand the meaning of important words found in the book

**3**  
**Visualize While Reading**  
✓ Notice the words an author uses to describe people, places, things, or events  
✓ Think about how the problem might be solved

**Time to Read**  
Stop on the following pages. Think about the questions for each page. Then talk with a reading partner or write your thoughts down in your notebook.

**Page 7** - The author uses a lot of descriptive words to tell about Jamie. How do you think Jamie feels? What do you think the problem is?

**Page 10** - Jamie has solved one of his problems. Which problem did he solve? How did he solve it? Do you agree with his solution? Why or why not?

**Page 14** - Jamie has another problem. What is his problem?

**Pages 20 and 21** - The villagers are mad at Jamie. Why are they mad? How are they going to solve this new problem? How does thinking about the problems in a story help you as a reader?

**Pages 26 and 27** - Now the villagers have a problem. What is their problem? How did they solve their problem?

**Time to Reflect**  
**Think** - How did your thinking change while you read *Jamie O'Rourke and the Big Potato*? What information helped you to gain a better understanding of the characters or the problem in the book?  
**Talk** - Tell your reading partner about a place where your thinking changed. Explain why your thinking changed.  
**Reflect** - Think about the visualizing work you did while reading *Jamie O'Rourke and the Big Potato*. How does paying attention to the way your thinking changes across a text help you to be a better reader? Which reading comprehension strategies were most helpful to you as you read today?

**Write** - Give your Strategy/3p into your Reader's Notebook. Write about the work you did while reading *Jamie O'Rourke and the Big Potato*. (Remember to include examples from the book!)

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## Making Predictions

## Visualizing

**Jamie O'Rourke and the Big Potato**  
By: Tomie dePaola  
Grade Level: 2 / Guided Reading Level: L

**Determining Importance**

**1**  
**Get Ready To Read**  
✓ Learn about the book  
✓ Get your brain ready to read  
✓ Understand the meaning of important words found in the book

**3**  
**Determine Importance While Reading**  
✓ Look for big ideas and important details  
✓ Notice when you learn something new about a character or a topic  
✓ Look for new words that change your understanding of the text

**Time to Read**  
Stop on the following pages. Think about the questions for each page. Then talk with a reading partner or write your thoughts down in your notebook.

**Page 4** - Jamie hears a tapping sound. What do you predict the sound is?

**Pages 10 and 14** - Look at the pictures on these pages. What do you think Jamie is doing? How do you think he feels? What do you think the problem is?

**Page 20** - The villagers are mad at Jamie. How do you think they will solve this problem?

**Page 26** - The villagers have a problem. How do you think they will solve this problem?

**Time to Reflect**  
**Think** - How did your thinking change while you read *Jamie O'Rourke and the Big Potato*? What information helped you to gain a better understanding of the characters or the problem in the book?  
**Talk** - Tell your reading partner about a place where your thinking changed. Explain why your thinking changed.  
**Reflect** - Think about the determining importance work you did while reading *Jamie O'Rourke and the Big Potato*. How does paying attention to the way your thinking changes across a text help you to be a better reader? Which reading comprehension strategies were most helpful to you as you read today?

**Write** - Give your Strategy/3p into your Reader's Notebook. Write about the work you did while reading *Jamie O'Rourke and the Big Potato*. (Remember to include examples from the book!)

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**Jamie O'Rourke and the Big Potato**  
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Grade Level: 2 / Guided Reading Level: L

**Understanding Text Structure**

**1**  
**Get Ready To Read**  
✓ Learn about the book  
✓ Get your brain ready to read  
✓ Understand the meaning of important words found in the book

**3**  
**Understand Text Structure While Reading**  
✓ Notice the words an author uses to describe people, places, things, or events  
✓ Think about how the problem might be solved

**Time to Read**  
Stop on the following pages. Think about the questions for each page. Then talk with a reading partner or write your thoughts down in your notebook.

**Page 7** - The author uses a lot of descriptive words to tell about Jamie. How do you think Jamie feels? What do you think the problem is?

**Page 10** - Jamie has solved one of his problems. Which problem did he solve? How did he solve it? Do you agree with his solution? Why or why not?

**Page 14** - Jamie has another problem. What is his problem?

**Pages 20 and 21** - The villagers are mad at Jamie. Why are they mad? How are they going to solve this new problem? How does thinking about the problems in a story help you as a reader?

**Pages 26 and 27** - Now the villagers have a problem. What is their problem? How did they solve their problem?

**Time to Reflect**  
**Think** - How did your thinking change while you read *Jamie O'Rourke and the Big Potato*? What information helped you to gain a better understanding of the characters or the problem in the book?  
**Talk** - Tell your reading partner about a place where your thinking changed. Explain why your thinking changed.  
**Reflect** - Think about the understanding text structure work you did while reading *Jamie O'Rourke and the Big Potato*. How does paying attention to the way your thinking changes across a text help you to be a better reader? Which reading comprehension strategies were most helpful to you as you read today?

**Write** - Give your Strategy/3p into your Reader's Notebook. Write about the work you did while reading *Jamie O'Rourke and the Big Potato*. (Remember to include examples from the book!)

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## Determining Importance

## Understanding Text Structure

## Practice Pages and Answer Keys

# Writing About Reading with Optional CCSS Alignment

**"I Can" Statement**

Strategy and Text Based Reader's Response Prompt

Common Core State Standard

Common Core Free Option

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## 5 Comprehension Strategy Graphic Organizers

**Making Predictions**

**Visualizing**

**Determining Importance**

**Understanding Text Structure**

**Synthesizing**