

Instructional Overview

The Princess in Black
By: Shannon Hale and Dean Hale
Grade Level: 2 / Guided Reading Level: M

Book Club

Instructional Focus:
Illustrations (Visual Elements)

Background:
One way for readers to improve their comprehension is to attend to the illustrations, or visual elements, that are included throughout the text. As students move further into reading longer chapter books, illustrations are often less frequently included. When they are present, readers can use the visual elements to learn more about the characters, setting, and mood of the story.

The Princess in Black helps support readers by combining bright, colorful, and action-packed illustrations with engaging text. This combination of visual elements and text helps readers sustain attention and increase understanding to support their comprehension of the story.

Instructional Overview:

Meeting #1 (Chapters 1-4)
Set Expectations and Introduce the Role of Illustrations in a Story

Meeting #2 (Chapters 5-8)
Using Illustrations to Learn About Characters

Meeting #3 (Chapters 9-12)
Using Illustrations to Learn About the Setting

Meeting #4 (Chapters 13-15)
Using Illustrations to Understand the Plot

Meeting #5
Identifying How Illustrations Tell the Story

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Instructional Focus



Description of the Instructional Focus



List of Materials and Preparation



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Materials and Preparation:

- Determine which students will participate in **The Princess in Black** Book Club (4-6 students)
- Gather copies of **The Princess in Black** by Shannon Hale and Dean Hale (1 per student)
- Prepare copies of the Book Club Calendar (1 per student)
- Prepare copies of the Expectations for Book Club (1 per student)
- Prepare copies of the Book Club Reading Response Board (1 per student)
- Prepare Reader's Notebooks (1 per student)
 - These may be spiral notebooks or several sheets of lined paper stapled together, or bound in a folder.
- Prepare Bird on a Branch activity (1 per student)
- Prepare Picture This... graphic organizer (1 per student or draw in their Reader's Notebook)
- Prepare Picture This... Characters graphic organizer (1 per student)
- Prepare Picture This... Setting graphic organizer (1 per student)
- Prepare Picture This... Plot graphic organizer (1 per student)
- Prepare What happens next? Culminating activity (1 per student)
- Optional: Prepare Vocabulary Resources (1 set per student)
- Optional: Prepare Student Self-Evaluation Forms (1 per student per meeting)
- Optional: Prepare Assessment Resources (1 set per student)

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