

# Comprehension Strategy Lesson Plans and Practice Pages

The following preview shows all of the comprehension strategy resources for *The Watermelon Seed* by Greg Pizzoli

## Asking Questions Lesson Plan

**The Watermelon Seed**  
By: Greg Pizzoli  
Grade Level: 1 / Guided Reading Level: H

**Asking Questions**

**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**

This book is all about a crocodile who LOVES watermelon! He loves having it for breakfast, he loves having it for lunch, he loves having it for dinner, and he especially loves having it for dessert. But one day, Crocodile does the unthinkable—he swallows a watermelon seed! Now Crocodile is worried. Will his skin turn pink? Will he turn into a watermelon? Or will poor Crocodile have to give up his favorite food for good?

**Link to What You Know**

- What do you know about watermelon? What is one question you have about watermelon?
- Look at the front cover of the book. What are you wondering about this book? How can you find the answer to your question?

**Important Words to Know and Understand**

**Watermelon** – A large, round fruit that has hard, green skin, sweet, red, juicy flesh, and black seeds

**Crocodile** – A large reptile that has a long body, thick skin, and a long, thin mouth with sharp teeth and that lives in the water in regions with hot weather

**2**  
**Learn About Comprehension Strategies**

**Why Readers Ask Questions While Reading**

Readers ask questions because it makes reading much more interesting. By asking questions readers can turn a text into a treasure hunt, where their job is to find the answers to their questions. When readers ask questions, they think about what they already know and what they want to find out.

When you choose a book, it's important to ask questions before you read. Read the title, the blurb on the back, and look at the cover art. What are you curious about? What do you hope to learn from reading the book?

You should also ask questions while you read. Try asking questions that help you answer who or what the book is about where or when the story takes place.

It's important to ask questions after you read a book. Asking questions after reading will help you decide whether or not you understood what you read. Ask questions if you are confused or are wondering about something.

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Guided Reading Level

Activate Prior Knowledge

## Asking Questions Lesson Plan

**The Watermelon Seed**  
By: Greg Pizzoli  
Grade Level: 1 / Guided Reading Level: H

**Asking Questions**

**3**  
**Ask Questions While Reading**

- Try asking questions that begin with "I wonder..." or "Why...?"
- Decide whether or not your questions are important to the text
- Stop from time to time. Ask yourself if you've found the answers to your questions

**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.

**Pages 3 to 4** – On these pages, we learn that the crocodile has loved watermelon since he was a baby. What questions would you like to ask the crocodile about his love of watermelon?

**Pages 7 to 8** – These pages look different from the other pages. How are they different? What questions do you have?

**Pages 11 to 12** – How does the crocodile feel? What do you think the crocodile is wondering about? What are you wondering about?

**Pages 13 to 14** – The crocodile has swallowed a watermelon seed. What do these pages make you wonder about? How does asking these questions help you as a reader?

**Pages 21 to 29** – What happened to the crocodile after he swallowed the watermelon seed? What questions do you have for the crocodile now that the story is over?

**4**  
**Notice the Work You Did While Reading**

- Talk
- Reflect
- Write

**Time to Reflect**

**Think** – When readers ask questions they think about what they need to know in order to really understand a book. Because no two readers are the same, your questions will usually be different from other people who are reading the same book. What question did you ask that helped you to really understand or enjoy *The Watermelon Seed*?

**Talk** – Tell your reading partner about the most important question you asked while reading. Explain how you answered your question and why the answer helped you.

**Write** – Write about the questioning work you did while reading *The Watermelon Seed*. Which types of questions helped you the most? Is there anything that you are still wondering about? If so, how can you answer your question?

**Write** – Glue your Strategy Slip into your reader's notebook. Write about the work you did while reading *The Watermelon Seed*. (Remember to include examples from the book!)

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Page by Page Guide and Strategy Questions

Turn, Talk, and Reflect

Key Vocabulary

Explanation of Strategy

**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**

- Make the words in the text come alive by using your imagination
- Use your senses to see, hear, feel, smell, and taste what is happening in the text

**2**  
**Learn About Comprehension Strategies**

- Think about the text you read
- Know what you get confused

**4**  
**Notice the Work You Did While Reading**

- Talk
- Reflect
- Write

**Time to Reflect**

**Think** – When readers ask questions they think about what they need to know in order to really understand a book. Because no two readers are the same, your questions will usually be different from other people who are reading the same book. What question did you ask that helped you to really understand or enjoy *The Watermelon Seed*?

**Talk** – Tell your reading partner about the most important question you asked while reading. Explain how you answered your question and why the answer helped you.

**Write** – Write about the questioning work you did while reading *The Watermelon Seed*. (Remember to include examples from the book!)

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Visualizing

**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 help you make predictions about what will happen next
- Use your senses to see, hear, feel, smell, and taste what is happening in the text

**2**  
**Learn About Comprehension Strategies**

- Think about the text you read
- Know what you get confused

**4**  
**Notice the Work You Did While Reading**

- Talk
- Reflect
- Write

**Time to Reflect**

**Think** – When readers ask questions they think about what they need to know in order to really understand a book. Because no two readers are the same, your questions will usually be different from other people who are reading the same book. What question did you ask that helped you to really understand or enjoy *The Watermelon Seed*?

**Talk** – Tell your reading partner about the most important question you asked while reading. Explain how you answered your question and why the answer helped you.

**Write** – Write about the questioning work you did while reading *The Watermelon Seed*. (Remember to include examples from the book!)

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Making Predictions

**Retelling and Summarizing**

**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**  
**Retell and Summarize While Reading**

- Retell what you have read in your own words
- Summarize what you have read in your own words

**2**  
**Learn About Comprehension Strategies**

- Think about the text you read
- Know what you get confused

**4**  
**Notice the Work You Did While Reading**

- Talk
- Reflect
- Write

**Time to Reflect**

**Think** – When readers ask questions they think about what they need to know in order to really understand a book. Because no two readers are the same, your questions will usually be different from other people who are reading the same book. What question did you ask that helped you to really understand or enjoy *The Watermelon Seed*?

**Talk** – Tell your reading partner about the most important question you asked while reading. Explain how you answered your question and why the answer helped you.

**Write** – Write about the questioning work you did while reading *The Watermelon Seed*. (Remember to include examples from the book!)

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Retelling and Summarizing

**Making Connections**

**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 Connections While Reading**

- Make connections between what you are reading and what you already know
- Make connections between what you are reading and what you are watching, listening to, or doing

**2**  
**Learn About Comprehension Strategies**

- Think about the text you read
- Know what you get confused

**4**  
**Notice the Work You Did While Reading**

- Talk
- Reflect
- Write

**Time to Reflect**

**Think** – When readers ask questions they think about what they need to know in order to really understand a book. Because no two readers are the same, your questions will usually be different from other people who are reading the same book. What question did you ask that helped you to really understand or enjoy *The Watermelon Seed*?

**Talk** – Tell your reading partner about the most important question you asked while reading. Explain how you answered your question and why the answer helped you.

**Write** – Write about the questioning work you did while reading *The Watermelon Seed*. (Remember to include examples from the book!)

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Making Connections

**Answer Key for Asking Questions with The Watermelon Seed**

**Your Turn to Practice Asking Questions with The Watermelon Seed**

**Pages 3 to 4:**  
On these pages, we learn that the crocodile has loved watermelon since he was a baby. What questions would you like to ask the crocodile about his love of watermelon?

**Pages 7 to 8:**  
These pages look different from the other pages. How are they different? What questions do you have?

**Pages 11 to 12:**  
How does the crocodile feel? What do you think the crocodile is wondering about? What are you wondering about?

**Pages 13 to 14:**  
The crocodile has accidentally swallowed a watermelon seed. What words help you visualize the action on these pages?

**Pages 21 to 29:**  
Has the crocodile's problem been solved? How do you know?

**Answer Key for Making Connections with The Watermelon Seed**

**Your Turn to Practice Making Connections with The Watermelon Seed**

**Pages 3 to 4:**  
On these pages, we learn that the crocodile really loves to eat watermelon. Which words on the page help you visualize the crocodile eating watermelon?

**Pages 7 to 8:**  
The crocodile has accidentally swallowed a watermelon seed. What words help you visualize the action on these pages?

**Pages 11 to 12:**  
The crocodile is very worried about what might happen to him now that he swallowed a watermelon seed. List at least two things the crocodile is worried about.

**Pages 21 to 29:**  
Has the crocodile's problem been solved? How do you know?

**Answer Key for Making Predictions with The Watermelon Seed**

**Your Turn to Practice Making Predictions with The Watermelon Seed**

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**Pages 11 to 12:**  
The crocodile is very worried about what might happen to him now that he swallowed a watermelon seed. List at least two things the crocodile is worried about.

**Pages 21 to 29:**  
Has the crocodile's problem been solved? How do you know?

**Answer Key for Visualizing with The Watermelon Seed**

**Your Turn to Practice Visualizing with The Watermelon Seed**

**Pages 3 to 4:**  
On these pages, we learn that the crocodile really loves to eat watermelon. Which words on the page help you visualize the crocodile eating watermelon?

**Pages 7 to 8:**  
The crocodile has accidentally swallowed a watermelon seed. What words help you visualize the action on these pages?

**Pages 11 to 12:**  
The crocodile is very worried about what might happen to him now that he swallowed a watermelon seed. List at least two things the crocodile is worried about.

**Pages 21 to 29:**  
Has the crocodile's problem been solved? How do you know?

**Answer Key for Retelling and Summarizing with The Watermelon Seed**

**Your Turn to Practice Retelling and Summarizing with The Watermelon Seed**

**Pages 1 to 2:**  
Who is the main character in this story? Describe him.

**Pages 3 to 4:**  
How do you know he is the main character?

**Pages 7 to 8:**  
The crocodile has a problem. What is his problem?

**Pages 11 to 12:**  
The crocodile is very worried about what might happen to him now that he swallowed a watermelon seed. List at least two things the crocodile is worried about.

**Pages 21 to 29:**  
Has the crocodile's problem been solved? How do you know?

Practice Pages and Answer Keys

# Writing About Reading with Optional CCSS Alignment

## The Watermelon Seed: Visualizing

Which event in *The Watermelon Seed* do you see the most clearly in your mind? Tell about your mental image. What character do you see? What is the setting? What is the action?

I can use illustrations and details in a story to tell about its characters, settings, or events. CCSS: RL.1.7

Strategy and Text Based Reader's Response Prompt

Common Core State Standard

"I Can" Statement

## The Watermelon Seed: Visualizing

Which event in *The Watermelon Seed* do you see the most clearly in your mind? Tell about your mental image. What character do you see? What is the setting? What is the action?

I can use illustrations and details in a story to tell about its characters, settings, or events. CCSS: RL.1.7

## The Watermelon Seed: Visualizing

Which event in *The Watermelon Seed* do you see the most clearly in your mind? Tell about your mental image. What character do you see? What is the setting? What is the action?

I can use illustrations and details in a story to tell about its characters, settings, or events. CCSS: RL.1.7

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## The Watermelon Seed: Visualizing

Which event in *The Watermelon Seed* do you see the most clearly in your mind? Tell about your mental image. What character do you see? What is the setting? What is the action?

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Common Core Free Option

Reading Response Prompts for Each Comprehension Strategy Lesson Plan

## 5 Comprehension Strategy Graphic Organizers

**Asking Questions**  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Question Sentence Starters  
I wonder... Why did... How does...  
I am confused about... I am curious about... I am not sure why...

Question	Answer
Question	Answer
Question	Answer
Question	Answer

Directions:  
1. Answer each of the questions.  
2. Carefully cut on the dotted line.  
3. Glue, tape, or staple into your reader's notebook.

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**Making Connections**  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Think about the book. What does the book remind you of?

What type of connection did you make?  
 Text to Self  Text to Text  Text to World

Draw a picture of your connection in the box below.

Directions:  
1. Answer each of the questions.  
2. Carefully cut on the dotted line.  
3. Glue, tape, or staple into your reader's notebook.

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**Making Predictions**  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Predictions at the Beginning	Predictions while Reading	Check Predictions at the End
Write your prediction below.	Write your prediction below.	Did I predict correctly? <input type="checkbox"/> Correct <input type="checkbox"/> Incorrect
		<input type="checkbox"/> Correct <input type="checkbox"/> Incorrect
		<input type="checkbox"/> Correct <input type="checkbox"/> Incorrect

Directions:  
1. Answer each of the questions.  
2. Carefully cut on the dotted line.  
3. Glue, tape, or staple into your reader's notebook.

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**Retelling and Summarizing**  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_

What is this book about?  
Is it fiction or non-fiction?

Draw a picture or write a sentence for each box below:

First	Next	Then
After that	Then	Last

What is the most important thing you read in this book?

Directions:  
1. Answer each of the questions.  
2. Carefully cut on the dotted line.  
3. Glue, tape, or staple into your reader's notebook.

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**Visualizing**  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_

What page did you use to practice visualizing?  
Draw a picture of your mental image in the space below:

Write down some of the words that the author used to help you make this picture in your mind.

Show your picture to someone. Make sure that you draw all of the words that helped you visualize.

Directions:  
1. Answer each of the questions.  
2. Carefully cut on the dotted line.  
3. Glue, tape, or staple into your reader's notebook.

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Asking Questions

Making Connections

Making Predictions

Retelling and Summarizing

Visualizing