

Little Books

For

March



Using the little books:

Each little book has one, two or three of these options:

- print and black and white illustrations

This option is best if the book is being read by the class or a group, with a copy for each child. The picture tells the child what the words are likely to be, so early readers can be successful. The pictures may be coloured later.

- print with no illustrations

The children can draw their own illustrations, once they have been taught the words and can read the little book - or each page can be taught and then the illustration drawn.

- print with coloured illustrations.

To print a class set of little books in colour is likely too expensive, but the teacher can teach from a coloured copy. The coloured copy could be tacked on a bulletin board for 'read the room' activities, or put in the class library for later reading.

Making the little books.....

The pages in the little books in PDF have been turned so that they should photocopy correctly.

To photocopy, the pages should stand the 'tall' portrait way. On the top of the pile, page 1 and 8 should face right, under it page 2 and 7 should face left, page 3 and 6 should face right and page 4 and 5 at the bottom of the pile should face left. Fold in half, of course.

To staple, use a 'long neck' stapler and put two staples on the fold.

Ideas for Teaching the Little Books

1. March

This can be taught on the first school day in March.

Show the little book. What is the title? Read each page with the group. Have the students touch each word as they read. Discuss the March calendar and show the special days and re-read. Divide the children into pairs and have them read the little book to each other.



Colour the pictures. While the children are colouring, go to students who might have problems, and have them read the little book to you.

The students may draw the illustrations in the non-illustrated version.

2. The In-Between Month

Talk about the month of March, and the changes that usually occur. How is the weather like the lion and lamb? What does 'in-between' mean? What are the months of February and April like? Learn to spell 'March'.

Read the book to the group, and then re-read it touching each word. Read each page, and then have a child come up and touch the words as he/she 'reads'. Talk about each page.

Give out the black and white copies to each child, and read each page together - touching each word as we read. Highlight words that have already been taught. How does the picture help us read? Re-read in partners.

Colour the pictures. Use the book without illustrations to make a wall chart with the students' drawings, or cut out printed photos and glue to each page and photocopy.

3. In March

This can be taught when the weather becomes spring-like!

Show the little book. What is the title? Read each page with the group. have the students touch each word as they read. Divide the children into pairs and have them read the little book to each other.

Colour the pictures. While the children are colouring, go to students who might have problems, and have them read the little book to you.

An art project of making a kite works well with this little book.

The students may draw the illustrations in the non-illustrated version.

4. St. Patrick's Day

This little book is an introduction to this special day.

Show the little book. What is the title? Read each page with the group. have the students touch each word as they read. Discuss St. Patrick's Day and what it means and some of the traditions.

Divide the children into pairs and have them read the little book to each other.

Colour the pictures. While the children are colouring, go to students who might have problems, and have them read the little book to you.

The students may draw the illustrations in the non-illustrated version.

Make shamrocks by cutting out three or four hearts from green paper and glue the points together. Make a stem.



5. Five Little Leprechauns

Discuss leprechauns, the Irish fairy that plays tricks. They are making the leprechauns hard to count!

There are lots of repetitive words in this little book. You can print the words on a chart and have the children highlight all the words that are the same with the same colours, This is also counting down, so that can be practiced as well, linking it to subtraction.

Show the coloured book. What is the title? What does the illustration on the cover tell you?

Read the little book to the students. Look for words they know.

Give each student a black and white copy of the little book. Read it together and read in pairs. Words that are repeated can be highlighted. Colour the pictures.

6. The Leprechauns are Marching

The leprechaun played a trick on me - after I luckily found a graphic of a marching leprechaun and put him so many times on the pages, I discovered that he wouldn't go into black and white. I would suggest that you print as colour on your photocopier, having it come out in gray tones. I apologize, but I like him, and couldn't find another graphic.....

There are some repetitive words - highlight them on your copy and have the student find them again.

Show the coloured book. What is the title? Read the little book to the students. Look for words they know.

Give each student a black and white copy of the little book. Read it together and read in pairs. Words that are repeated can be highlighted.



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