

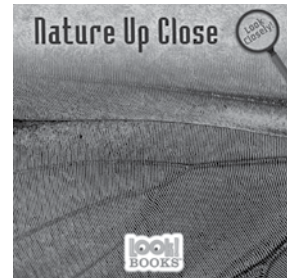


Teaching with Look Closely

Nature Up Close

ELL Tips Transfer the use of successful strategies to other activities and learning opportunities. Gradually release the responsibility of using strategies to the students, providing less support over time. Encourage ELL students to assume responsibility for their own decisions regarding strategies.

Standards CCSS: ELA-Literacy RI.K.1, RI.K.2, RI.K.3, RI.K.4, RI.K.5, RI.K.7, RI.1.1, RI.1.2, RI.1.3, RI.1.4, RI.1.5, RI.1.7, RI.1.10



Lexile: 390

GRL: TBD

Take a Look! (Building Background)

- Gather a few items from your yard or a nearby park, such as a leaf, piece of a branch, flower, or piece of bark. Using pieces of paper or envelopes with a hole cut in it, cover most of each item, revealing just enough of so that the students have to guess what each item is. Pass the items around and have the students try to identify them.
- Take a nature walk outside and look closely at a variety of leaves, bushes, trees, and so forth. Bring a collection inside for close examination throughout the study of the book. If the weather or schedule precludes a class walk, suggest that students bring in items they find as they go to and from school.

Look Ahead! (Prereading)

- Discuss the structure of the book, reminding students if they've read the other books that the book uses a riddle format. If this is their first experience, with the series, explain that they'll be guessing about things in the book before they read about them, just like they guessed what was in the envelopes.
- Warm up the students with some riddles and jokes about nature.
 - What kind of tree can you carry in your hand? (a palm)
 - They come out at night without being called. They are lost in the day without being stolen. What are they? (stars)
 - Why do bees hum? (They don't know the words.)
 - Why did the bumblebee put honey under its pillow? (to have sweet dreams)
 - It comes down but never goes up. What is it? (rain)
 - It has a bark, but no bite. What is it? (tree)
- If time allows, read aloud the riddles on pages 5, 9, 13, and 17 to determine whether the students can guess what they'll be learning about before reading. Review the table of contents. Then share the book and pictures.

Look for Big Ideas! (During Reading)

Write the following assignment on the board to guide the reading. Explain it as necessary.

- There are four important things in this book.
- Each one can make a big change.
- Tell about how each one changes.
- Write a complete sentence about each.

Butterfly

Cactus

Armadillo

Venus flytrap

Look Back! (After Reading)

- Write the four names on the board: butterfly, cactus, armadillo, and Venus flytrap.
- Have the students review in the book and tell how each one uses a special skill to survive.
- Give each student a sticky note. Have them put a sticky note under their choice for the most clever or inventive example of nature at work. Which one wins?

Look Around! (Rereading)

- Have the students look at the pictures on pages 20 and 22. Discuss the unique characteristics of the animals and the sunflower.
- Have students look at the words in the Words to Keep list on page 23. Have them scan through the book again and find four more words to add to the list. Suggest that they find one more word from each section.

Word Work

Seahorse and *sunflower* are closed compound words. It's easy to see how the names were made—the seahorse looks much like a horse and it lives in the sea. The sunflower looks a lot like the sun and it's a flower. Other good examples of closed compound words include airport, bedroom, grasshopper, moonlight, railroad, sailboat, schoolhouse, skateboard, and wildcat. Use these examples to discuss compound words.

Vocabulary Building

Palindromes are words that read the same way backwards and forwards. They are good for some word play. Here are ten examples. Challenge your students to find more examples.

1. bob
2. dad
3. did
4. eye
5. mom
6. noon
7. peep
8. pop
9. toot
10. wow

Name _____

Mapping My Day

Draw four things that you saw during one day.

Each should be something from nature.

Look closely!

Label each one.

