

The Spaceship

Before reading

- Read the title and look at the first picture. Ask the children:
What was Floppy doing? What was in his dream? What do you think would happen in this story?
- Look briefly through the story at the illustrations to confirm the children's ideas.

During reading

- Ask the children to read the story. Praise and encourage them while they read, and prompt as necessary. Encourage the children to use the pictures and context to work out new words.
- If children have difficulty with understanding the words, 'spaceship' and 'fireballs', remind them to break the words into smaller ones.
- Tell children how the onomatopoeic word 'WHOOSH' works.

Observing Check that the children:

- are able to read familiar context words and high frequency words on sight.
- can understand the meaning of the compound words and the onomatopoeic word.

Group and independent reading activities

Text level work

Objective To use phonological, contextual, grammatical and graphic

knowledge to work out, predict and check the meanings of unfamiliar words.

- Turn to page 81-②. Ask the children: *What does the word 'alien' mean?* Encourage the children to share their ideas if they differ from each other's.
- Ask them to look through the story and find other words that were difficult to work out. Ask: *Did you have to use the picture, context or sentence to work out the word?*

Observing Can the children find examples of when they used different strategies to work out difficult words?

Sentence level work

Objective To check if the statements given by the teacher make sense in accordance with the story.

- Ask children to look at picture 2. Then describe the picture in deliberately inaccurate statements: "A spaceship landed. Only a dog came out of it". Ask children: *Is there anything wrong with what I have just said?*
- Turn to picture 4. Then describe the picture inaccurately. "The spaceship took off. It flew up into water." Ask children: *Does what I just said make sense?*
- Repeat on a further picture and ask: *Does that make sense? What's wrong with it?*

Observing Can the children discern sentences that do not make sense?
Can they correct the wrong information?

Word level work

Objective Read the words in the list on sight.

- Ask the children to find these words in the text: 'came', 'sleep', 'dream', 'land', 'began', 'real', 'space', 'dog', 'Zog', 'took', 'flew', 'danger', 'save'.
- Ask children to use phonic knowledge to group them and talk to the children how these words help us to read.
- Ask them to make up a sentence using these words, e.g. "A space dog, Zog, came to save us".

Observing Can the children recognize the high frequency words using phonics?

Comprehension

Ask the children:

- On page 83-⑥, *why did Zog shouted for help?*
- On page 83-⑦, *why did the spaceship begin to spin around?*
- Read page 83, *who was the hero of the story?*

Speaking and listening activities

Objective Speak loudly in an expressive tone. Listen to others' reactions. Describe events and experiences.

- Ask the children to imagine another space adventure with Floppy based on the text. Encourage children to imagine as many details as they could.
- If the children have difficulty in making up a thoroughly new story, help them by guiding them to replace the entities or names in the story.

Writing

Objective To correctly use full stops and initial capitalised letters in writing.

- Ask the children to find the words related to a spaceship, for example, 'took off', 'flew up', 'spin round', 'landed'.
- Ask the children to write sentences using these words to describe what a spaceship could do.
- Remind the children to use a full stop at the end of a sentence and to capitalise the initial letter of a sentence.