

The Raft Race

🗨 = Language comprehension

🔍 = Word recognition

Group or guided reading

Introducing the story

- 🗨 (*Prediction*) Read the title and look at the picture below the title. Ask the children: *What would happen in this story?* Then ask children to guess: *Who would be in the raft race?*
- 🗨 (*Clarifying*) Ask children if they were once in a raft race. Then look briefly through the book, talking about the pictures and point out those new or difficult words.

Strategy check

Remind the children to point to each word as they read it.

Independent reading

- Ask children to read the story out loud. Praise and encourage them while they read, and prompt as necessary.
- 🔍 Encourage the children to work out the new words by referring to pictures.
- 🗨 (*summarising*) Ask the children to say who won the race.

Assessment Check that children:

- recognise automatically an increasing number of familiar high frequency words

- apply phonic knowledge and skills to decipher the pronunciation of new words.
- use pictures and context when reading for meaning
- identify main events and character in stories.

Returning to the text

- (Clarifying) On page 77-⑤, ask: *Who were in the race?* On page 78-⑦, ask: *What happened to their raft?* On page 79-⑪, ask: *Who won the race?*
- (Questioning, Summarising) Ask: *Why did the children say "Poor old Dad" at the end? What do you think of Dad's role in the race?*
- (Prediction) Ask: *What would you do if something unlucky happened to you in a race?* For example, *when you were in a running race, you fell onto the ground.*

Group and independent reading

Objective Identify the main characters and find specific information in the story. Compose and write simple sentences independently to communicate meaning.

- (Summarising, Clarifying) Invite children to sum up the story by telling it in several simple sentences, with each sentence covering these different questions: *What event was there? Who took part in it? What happened? Who won?*
- Arrange the children in a circle. Ask children to put all the answers to the aforementioned questions together and retell the story.

Assessment Could the children answer all the teacher's questions in simple

questions? Can they identify the climax and the ending?

Objective Recognise phoneme 'a' as in 'raft' and 'fast', 'Dad', 'can' and 'pant'.

- Write the word 'raft' on the board.
- Ask the children to find other words in the book with the 'a' sound, e.g. 'can', 'fast'.
- Sort them out and make lists of them.

Assessment Do children identify words with the 'a' sound?

Speaking, listening and drama activities

Objective Ask and answer questions, taking turns.

- 🗣️ (*Questioning*) Ask: Who cheered for Mum and Dad in the race? Choose one child to answer, then ask him or her to think of a question to ask the class. The child who answers correctly is given the chance to ask the next question. The children continue taking turns in this way.

Praise children for inventing relevant questions and praise the others for answering them all.

Writing

Objective Write a summary of the story. Use capital letters and full stops when punctuating simple sentences.

- List the questions.
- Ask the children to take turns to continue the writing which starts with this sentence: It was a raft race day. Each student contributes one sentence.
- Remind the children to write based on the given information and to make sure the sequence of sentences does make sense.
- Encourage the last child to write the ending for the story.

Assessment Were the children able to write simple sentences coherently?