

## The Swing Ball

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<p><b>Comprehension strategies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comprehension strategies are taught throughout the Teaching Notes to enable pupils to understand what they are reading in books that they can read independently. In these Teaching Notes the following strategies are taught: <i>Prediction, Questioning, Clarifying, Summarising</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>Decodable words</b></p> <p><b>Tricky words</b> ball, swing, the</p> <p><b>C</b> = Language comprehension <b>W</b> = Word recognition</p>
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### Group or guided reading

#### Introducing the book

- C (Questioning)** Read the title to the children. Look at the cover picture. Ask them: *Who are the children in the picture? What are they doing?*
- C (Clarifying)** Look through the rest of the book and identify all the ball games they are playing. Ask: *What happens to the ball each time?*
- C (Prediction)** Look at page 8. Ask: *Why do you think a swing ball is a good idea?*
  - Encourage the children to talk about their own experiences of ball games and if they ever lose the ball.

#### Strategy check

Do the children look carefully at the illustrations and notice details?

#### Independent reading

- W** Start with the cover again. Ask the children to point to the words as they read the title with you.
- C (Clarifying)** Ask the children to look through the book and tell the story in their own words. Encourage them to use 'Oh no!' when the ball flies away.
- C (Clarifying)** On page 8, ask: *Why is Dad smiling?*

**Assessment** Check that children:

- are aware of the story structure, e.g. actions/reaction, consequence, and the way that the story was built up and concluded
- open the book and 'read' it from left to right.

#### Returning to the text

- C (Summarising)** Ask the children to retell the story in their own words, without referring to the pictures.
- W** Remind the children of the title and ask them to point to each word as you read it. Ask the children to look through the book to find some of the same words in a picture (page 6).

### Group and independent reading activities

**Objective** Show an understanding of the elements of stories, such as main character, sequence of events, and openings.

- C (Questioning, Clarifying)** Ask the children the following questions:

*Can you show me the page where Biff is playing cricket?*

Where does the ball go? What do you think will happen next?

How do you think the neighbour feels?

How does Dad feel?

How do Biff and Chip feel?

**Assessment** Do the children scan the picture for clues to the answers to these questions?

**Objective** Explore and experiment with sounds, words and texts. Know that print carries meaning and, in English, is read from left to right.

**You will need** word cards of the words in the title: The, Swing, Ball.

**C (Questioning)** Jumble the words up and ask the children to put them in the correct sequence, explaining that the words don't make sense if they read 'Ball Swing The' or 'Ball The Swing'.

- Ask what they think of 'Swing The Ball'. Say: *It makes sense, but is it the title?*

**Assessment** Do the children realise that there are three separate words in the title?

**Objective** Recognise letter shapes and say a sound for each.

**W** Write the words 'The Swing Ball' on the board.

- Ask the children to think of other types of balls and write them as a list on the board.
- Ask the children to say each word as you write them.
- Point to words randomly and ask the children to sound out the first letter of each word.

**Assessment** Do the children recognise letter shapes?

## Speaking, listening and drama activities

**Objective** Use language to imagine and recreate roles and experiences. Speak clearly and audibly with confidence and control and show awareness of the listener.

**You will need** a ball.

- Sit in a circle with the children and pass the ball to a child. Ask the child whether he/she has ever experienced playing with a ball and losing it. Ask: *What happened?* Encourage the child to speak loudly so that everyone can hear what they say.
- The child then passes the ball to another child who recalls any similar experience.
- Continue around the group.

## Writing activities

**Objective** Write their own names and other things such as labels and captions. Use a pencil and hold it effectively to form recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed.

**You will need** paper and a variety of pencils, crayons and coloured pencils.

- Ask the children to make a book cover about a different game Biff and Chip could play.
- Ask them to look again at the list of ball games on the board, then copy one down as the title of their book. They can write their own name as the author and then draw a picture of Biff and Chip playing the game.
- Tell the children that they can look at the cover of *The Swing Ball* to remind them how it should look.

**Assessment** Are the children able to write their own names legibly and spell the words correctly?

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