

Guided Reading – Lesson 2 - Tuesday

LO: respond to the language used by an author in a text

SC: *use a dictionary to look up the meaning of new words

*select phrases from a poem that have an impact on the reader

*discuss what impact the author's choice of words has on the reader

You will need your printed copy of 'The Spider and the Fly' from yesterday

Poems are broken up into stanzas (you might be more familiar with the word verses)

We can identify stanzas as they are grouped into what looks like paragraphs in a story and there is gap (a space) between each stanza.

How many stanzas is this poem made up of?

Number each stanza on your sheet – it is useful to annotate your poems.

The Spider and the Fly by Mary Howitt

"Will you walk into my parlour?" said the Spider to the Fly,
"Tis the prettiest little parlour that ever you did spy;
The way into my parlour is up a winding stair,
And I've a many curious things to shew when you are there."
"Oh no, no," said the little Fly, "to ask me is in vain,
For who goes up your winding stair can ne'er come down again."

"I'm sure you must be weary, dear, with soaring up so high;
Will you rest upon my little bed?" said the Spider to the Fly.
"There are pretty curtains drawn around; the sheets are fine and thin,
And if you like to rest awhile, I'll snugly tuck you in!"
"Oh no, no," said the little Fly, "for I've often heard it said,
They never, never wake again, who sleep upon your bed!"

Said the cunning Spider to the Fly, "Dear friend what can I do,
To prove the warm affection I've always felt for you?
I have within my pantry, good store of all that's nice;
I'm sure you're very welcome—will you please to take a slice?"
"Oh no, no," said the little Fly, "kind sir, that cannot be,
I've heard what's in your pantry, and I do not wish to see!"

"Sweet creature!" said the Spider, "you're witty and you're wise,
How handsome are your gauzy wings, how brilliant are your eyes!
I've a little looking-glass upon my parlour shelf,
If you'll step in one moment, dear, you shall behold yourself."
"I thank you, gentle sir," she said, "for what you're pleased to say,
And bidding you good morning now, I'll call another day."

The Spider turned him round about, and went into his den,
For well he knew the silly Fly would soon come back again:
So he wove a subtle web, in a little corner sly,
And set his table ready, to dine upon the Fly.
Then he came out to his door again, and merrily did sing,
"Come hither, hither, pretty Fly, with the pearl and silver wing;
Your robes are green and purple—there's a crest upon your head;
Your eyes are like the diamond bright, but mine are dull as lead!"

Alas, alas! how very soon this silly little Fly,
Hearing his wily, flattering words, came slowly flitting by;
With buzzing wings she hung aloft, then near and nearer drew,
Thinking only of her brilliant eyes, and green and purple hue—
Thinking only of her crested head—poor foolish thing! At last,
Up jumped the cunning Spider, and fiercely held her fast.
He dragged her up his winding stair, into his dismal den,
Within his little parlour—but she ne'er came out again!

And now dear little children, who may this story read,
To idle, silly flattering words, I pray you ne'er give heed:
Unto an evil counsellor, close heart and ear and eye,
And take a lesson from this tale, of the Spider and the Fly.

Continue using the same text as yesterday, 'The Spider and the Fly'.

1. Skim and scan the text to find each of the words below – underline them in the text
2. Choose 8 of the words that you feel less confident defining from the list below
3. Use a dictionary to look up each of your 8 words
4. Write a definition for each word
5. Put the word into your own sentence
6. Go back to the poem – does knowing the meaning of the word help to further your understanding of the line?

1. parlour

6. witty

11. hue

2. weary

7. gauzy

12. dismal

3. Cunning

8. subtle

13. idle

4. affection

9. hither

14. heed

5. pantry

10. wily

NC objective: Discuss and evaluate how the author's use of language impacts the reader

The author of this poem **very thoughtfully selects her words and phrases**. This is done purposely to have an impact on the reader. It helps to create a picture in the reader's head and set the tone and mood of the poem.

Comprehension question: Which words/phrases in stanza 1 stand out to you? What impact do these words/phrases have on the story?

Modelled Answer:

Step 1:

Retrieve words/phrases that stand out from stanza 1 (notice how I keep the exact wording):

- ...my parlour
- ...the prettiest little parlour
- ...a winding stair
- ...many curious things to shew
- ...in vain

Step 2:

Take one word/phrase from your list and discuss the impact this has on the story. For example:

The phrase 'my parlour' **suggests** that the spider's house is rather grand as it has a room to receive guests. **This also suggests** that the spider has received guests before and so it shouldn't seem a strange invitation to the fly.

NC objective: Discuss and evaluate how the author's use of language impacts the reader

Comprehension question: Which words/phrases in stanza **2** stand out to you? What impact do these words/phrases have on the story?

Supported Answer:

Step 1:

Retrieve words/phrases that stand out from stanza 2 (notice how I keep the exact wording):

- ...be weary...with soaring up so high
- ...my little bed
- ...pretty curtains drawn
- ...I'll snugly tuck you in

Step 2:

Take one phrase from your list and discuss the impact this has on the story.

The phrase ' _____ ' suggests that

_____.

This also suggests _____

NC objective: Discuss and evaluate how the author's use of language impacts the reader

Comprehension question: Which words/phrases in stanza **3** stand out to you? What impact do these words/phrases have on the story?

Your turn:

Step 1:

Retrieve words/phrases that stand out from stanza 3:

-
-
-
-
-

Step 2:

Take one word/phrase from your list and discuss the impact this has on the story.

The phrase ' _____ ' suggests that

_____.

This also suggests _____

NC objective: Discuss and evaluate how the author's use of language impacts the reader

Comprehension question: Which words/phrases in stanza 4 stand out to you? What impact do these words/phrases have on the story?

Your turn:

Step 1:

Retrieve words/phrases that stand out from stanza 4:

-
-
-
-
-

Step 2:

Take one word/phrase from your list and discuss the impact this has on the story.

The phrase ' _____ ' suggests that

_____.

This also suggests _____

_____.