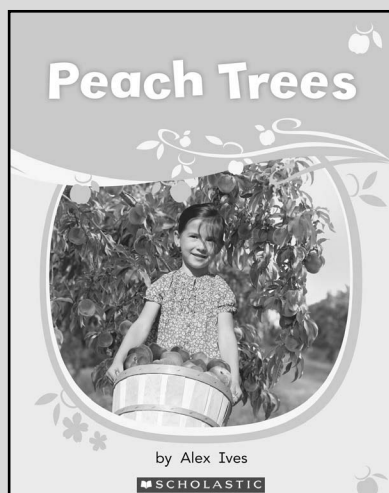


Peach Trees



Peach Trees Teachers' Notes

Learning objective: CLL Reading: Retell narratives in the correct sequence

Key words: look, they, have, are

Cross-curricular/theme links: How plants grow; the seasons

Genre: Non-fiction

NC level: Foundation stage

Assessment: Check that children can retell the sequence of events in the book, using the book as a prompt if necessary

Word count: 64

Getting started

Ask the children to help you read the title, and read the back cover blurb together. Flip through the book and ask children for their ideas about the sort of information the book contains. Ask: 'Do you think the peach trees will look different at different seasons of the year? What happens to trees in our playground/garden at different times of year?'

Guided reading

Page 2: Remind the children to use their knowledge of phonic letter patterns to help them read any tricky words such as 'peach' and 'spring'. Ask: 'What do the trees look like in spring? What can you see on them?'

Pages 3-7: Continue to support and prompt the children's reading as they read these pages, drawing their attention to letter-sound patterns they have learned. Encourage the children to spot the things which make the trees distinctive in each season.

Page 8: Ask: 'What is different about this page? Could it help us to remember what happens to the trees at different times of year?' Ask the children to point out each season in turn, following the sequence through from spring to winter.

Speaking and listening

- After reading the story, ask the children, in pairs, to practise retelling the sequence of events in the book to each other. Can they describe what happens to the trees in each season, and get the seasons in the right order? If they struggle, they could use page 8 of the book as a prompt.

After reading

Use these questions to help children talk about the book.

- Can you tell me what this book is about?
- What is special about the peach trees in spring?
- Can you find the page that shows what happens to the trees all year long? Can you use this page to help you tell me what happens in each season?

Reading into writing

Encourage the children to draw a tree that they know, in the current season. They could label it or add a sentence about it.

Book quiz for children

- 1 When are the peach trees covered in blossom?
- 2 Which season is it when peaches are growing on the trees?
- 3 What happens to the trees in winter?

Support for less confident readers

Before reading the book, make sure that children are familiar with the seasons. Talk about what happens to a tree close to the school, at different times of year. Encourage the children to use their phonic knowledge as they read, but prompt them quickly if any words prove too tricky.

Extension for more confident readers

Children could use the book as a model for a poster or zigzag book about another plant, describing what happens to it at different times of year.