

## **Reading Aloud Lesson in the Elementary Classroom**

When you consider a framework for best literacy methods within a classroom, daily read aloud lessons from a variety of genres should be a foundational teaching practice. There are a variety of purposes for reading books out loud.

### Benefits of Read aloud lessons:

- Provides an opportunity to share your favorite stories, novels, and poems with the whole class
- Using read aloud lessons during the language arts block allows you to teach strategy mini lessons to the whole class since everyone is listening to the same selection.
- Models fluent reading for students
- Introduces students to vivid and specific vocabulary
- Provides a chance to address important themes like friendship, courage, prejudice, bullying, etc.
- Offers a chance to use questioning strategies to explore concepts in the selection (making inferences, evaluating, etc.)
- Introduces kids to a variety of literary genres and authors
- Sets the stage for a unit or lesson
- Develops connections to a text (text-to-self, world or another text).

### Tips for Reading Aloud Lessons:

- Preview books to decide if they are suitable for the lesson and for your students. Some books just aren't appropriate for some students despite the grade level recommendations on the cover or in book reviews.
- As you preview each book, mark passages in the book that may work for “think alouds” or reading strategy lessons.
- Ensure that the book is easily viewed by all students. This could be using a document camera or scanning the book into a PDF. Remember to respect copyright laws. Scanned images of books may be used in an educational setting but can never be made public.
- Choose books that you enjoy rather than reading something that was recommended to you. If you don't like a book, you won't be able to convince your students that you enjoy it.
- If prior knowledge of specific concepts is necessary for understanding, introduce those ideas before reading the book or article. Use Google maps to show locations or historical images to recreate times and places.
- Read aloud with expression and enthusiasm! Don't be afraid that you will sound silly by reading the story dramatically. Your students will love it!
- Read aloud nonfiction as well as fiction. Kid-friendly newspaper or magazine articles will spark discussion and add another dimension to your read aloud sessions.

## Read-aloud Lesson Plan Template

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Genre \_\_\_\_\_

PLANNING	Talk with you host teacher and select a trade book that is an example of quality literature that is motivating and interesting. The selection of the book should also be appropriate to the grade level and curriculum. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summarize the book.</li> <li>• Write a rationale for the book selection. List the South Carolina College and Career Readiness Standards addressed in the read aloud.</li> </ul>
BEFORE READING	Start the lesson with a meaningful connection to prior knowledge. What strategies are planned to engage the students with listening to the trade book. <i>(bulleted list.)</i> Strategies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>
DURING READING	Describe how you will pause to engage the students in a meaningful discussion of the book while you are reading. Excellent questions should be provided to engage the students in the text. <i>(bulleted list of questions)</i> Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>
AFTER READING	Plan a meaningful follow-up to the lesson. Describe a meaningful and engaging closure for the lesson that is clearly aligned with the lesson rationale.
Reflection on Lesson	After you have taught the lesson, reflect on the Read-aloud. What went well? What was unexpected? Do you think the students learned what you were hoping they would learn from the lesson? Why or why not?

	Read-aloud Lesson Checklist	Possible Points	Points Earned
Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summary (2 points)</li> <li>• Rationale with standard included (2 points)</li> </ul>	4	
Before Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prior knowledge connection included</li> <li>• Strategies included</li> </ul>	4	
During Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engagement in discussion included (2 points)</li> <li>• Questions included (2 points)</li> </ul>	4	
After Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Closure included (2 points)</li> <li>• Follow up included (2 points)</li> </ul>	4	
Reflection on Lesson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What went well/unexpected (2 points)</li> <li>• Student learning and rationale (2 points)</li> </ul>	4	
Writing Mechanics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The lesson plan contains strong use of standard English with no errors in spelling, grammar or language usage.</li> </ul>	4	
<b>Total</b>		<b>24</b>	