Day 91: Soft c and g, y as a Vowel; Set a Purpose

How Bees Make Honey

Honeybees visit flowers to drink a sweet juice called nectar. Back at the hive, the bees pass the nectar from one bee to another and store it in little wax rooms. They fan it with their wings until most of the water dries out. Then the thick, golden nectar has become honey, food for the bees in winter.

Spelling: Listen as your teacher reads three words.

1. Dictation word 1

2. Dictation word 2

3. Dictation word 3

4. Which word has a soft c: cent, cat or cup? In which word does y sound like long e: sky, baby or my?

5. Before reading, what purpose did the title How Bees Make Honey give you?

6. Did the passage answer your purpose? Explain, using two details from the passage.

Day 92: Contractions and Homophones; Use What You Know

Birds of Dauphin Island

Every spring, tired birds fly north across the Gulf. Many of them land on Dauphin Island to rest and eat before they go on. Birdwatchers come to see orioles, warblers and tanagers in the trees. They're quiet and patient, and they use binoculars so the birds aren't frightened.

Spelling: Listen as your teacher reads three words.

7. Dictation word 1

8. Dictation word 2

9. Dictation word 3

10. Write the contraction for they are. Then write the two words that make aren't.

11. Choose the right word: Birdwatchers bring binoculars to the island. (their, there, they're)

12. What did you already know about birds or about traveling that helped you understand why the birds stop on Dauphin Island? Explain one connection.

Day 93: Present and Past Tense; Synonyms and Antonyms

The Big Storm

Last spring, a huge storm rolled over our town. The sky turned dark, and the wind howled. My sister and I sat by the window. Thunder boomed and rain poured down. After an hour, the storm moved on. The yard was calm and silent, and a giant rainbow stretched over the trees.

Spelling: Listen as your teacher reads three words.

13. Dictation word 1

14. Dictation word 2

15. Dictation word 3

16. Write the past tense of walk and the past tense of swim.

17. Find a word in the story that is a synonym for huge.

18. Find a word in the story that is an antonym for noisy. Explain how the sentence helped you know its meaning.

Day 94: Kinds of Poems; Hands-On: Write Two Poems

Three poems

Poem A Morning on the bay, pelicans dive for their fish, waves fold back to sand.

Poem B A turtle who lived by the shore Decided to walk to the store. He started in May, Took the long, scenic way, And came home with snacks by the score!

Poem C The river does not hurry. It carries leaves, a turtle's shadow, the whole blue sky.

Spelling: Listen as your teacher reads three words.

19. Dictation word 1

20. Dictation word 2

21. Dictation word 3

22. Which poem is a haiku? How many syllables are in its first line?

23. Poem B is a limerick. Write its rhyme scheme with letters.

24. Read your own haiku aloud. Explain how you made each line fit the 5, 7, 5 pattern.

Hands-on task: Write a haiku and a rhymed couplet

My haiku (5, 7, 5 syllables):

_____

_____

_____

My rhymed couplet:

_____

_____

Day 95: Independent Check: Purpose, Tense and Poems

Snow Day in Alabama

Snow does not fall often in south Alabama. One January morning, Grandpa woke us early. A thin white blanket covered the yard. We bundled up and ran outside. The air was icy, and our breath made little clouds. By lunch, the warm sun melted the snow away.

Poem White flakes, soft and slow, land on red clay, then they go. Grandpa laughs with me: Alabama snow!

Answer on your own. An adult may read the questions aloud but should not give the answers.

Spelling: Listen as your teacher reads three words.

25. Dictation word 1

26. Dictation word 2

27. Dictation word 3

28. Is the poem rhymed verse, free verse or a haiku? Tell how you know.

29. Rewrite this sentence in the past tense: We run outside. Then find a synonym for cold in the story.

30. Before reading, what purpose did the title give you? Tell one thing you already knew about snow that helped you understand the story.