



Chicken Said, "Cluck!"

By Judyann Ackerman Grant, pictures by Sue Truesdell

GRL H

ABOUT THE BOOK:

When Earl and Pearl decide to grow pumpkins, they must continually shoo Chicken away from their garden. Although the pumpkins grow with care from Earl and Pearl, one day the grasshoppers arrive, and they begin to eat the pumpkins. Earl and Pearl cannot make them go away, but Chicken can. She clucks those grasshoppers right out of the garden and saves the pumpkins!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Why don't Earl and Pearl want the chicken in their garden around the pumpkins?
2. What do Earl and Pearl do to help the pumpkins grow?
3. Why are the grasshoppers afraid of the chicken and not Earl and Pearl?
4. How do Earl and Pearl show the chicken they are grateful to her for saving their pumpkins?

The above questions correlate to Common Core State Standards (Reading): RL.K.1, RL.1.1, and RL.2.1; (Speaking & Listening): SL.K.1, SL.1.1, and SL.2.1, SL.K.3, SL.1.3, and SL.2.3.

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES:

What Do I See? Ask students to look through the book and find two illustrations that give the reader information that the words do not say. Then ask students to draw their own illustration of one of these scenes and to explain the information the illustration conveys. Display the students' art and explanations in the classroom. *This activity correlates to Common Core State Standards (Reading Literature): RL.K.7, RL.1.7, and RL.2.7; (Writing): W.K.2, W.1.2, and W.2.2; (Language): L.K.1, L1.1, and L.1.2; L.K.2, L.1.1, and L.1.2.*

Compare the Stories: Read the book *Scat, Cat!* to the class and ask them to listen for similarities to the story *Chicken Said, "Cluck!"* Using masking tape, create a large Venn diagram on the floor and explain what it is and how you are going to use it to help students compare and contrast the stories. Using index cards with pictures, words, or ideas from the stories, have students work as a class to decide whether the cards pertain to one of the stories or both. Ask students to help you place the cards in the appropriate places on the Venn diagram. Then ask students to write or draw one way that the two stories are alike and one way that the two stories are different. *This activity correlates to Common Core State Standards (Reading Literature): RL.K.9, RL.1.9, and RL.2.9; (Speaking and Listening): SL.K.6, SL.1.6, and SL.2.6.*

How Does Your Garden Grow? Ask students to list the steps in sequential order that Earl and Pearl take to grow pumpkins. Have students list the steps in a flowchart or storyboard and add illustrations for each step. Post the flowcharts or storyboards in the classroom. *This activity correlates to Common Core State Standards (Reading Literature): RL.K.3, RL.1.3, and RL.2.3; (Writing): W.K.2, W.1.2, and W.2.2; (Language): L.K.1, L1.1, and L.1.2; L.K.2, L.1.1, and L.1.2.*

Grasshoppers Gobble Plants: Read, or ask students to read, sections of this web page about the growth and eating habits of grasshoppers: www.biokids.umich.edu/critters/Acrididae. Then based on the information students learn, ask them to explain what they know about the grasshoppers who ate the pumpkins. Have students use the information they learn and rewrite the events of the story told from the viewpoint of one of the grasshoppers. *This activity correlates to Common Core State Standards (Reading Literature): RL.K.10, RL.1.10, and RL.2.10; (Writing): W.K.2, W.1.2, and W.2.2; (Language): L.K.1, L1.1, and L.1.2; L.K.2, L.1.1, and L.1.2.*

Visit www.icanread.com for more teaching guides!

