

Carl's Summer Vacation

by Alexandra Day

Watercolors and minimal words create a world where a young girl takes a journey with her beloved dog and explores her summer vacation home.



Read

Before:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow that with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, *What kind of vacation do you think a dog would like to take?*

Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an "I wonder" statement based on the cover illustration.

- I wonder if the dog is going to be nice to the frog?

During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions, and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end.

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- Where did the Harrises vacation?
- Why did the mom tell Carl and Madeleine to take a nap? Did they?
- Describe some of the things that Madeleine and Carl did instead of taking a nap.
- What did Carl do at the baseball game? How did the baseball players react?
- How did Carl and Madeleine find food to eat?
- What happened when Carl and Madeleine returned home?

Do

What We Think Happened...

After reading the story, go back through the wordless pages and have the children make up their own story. Have the children describe each picture, tell what they think is happening and how they would change the story.

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