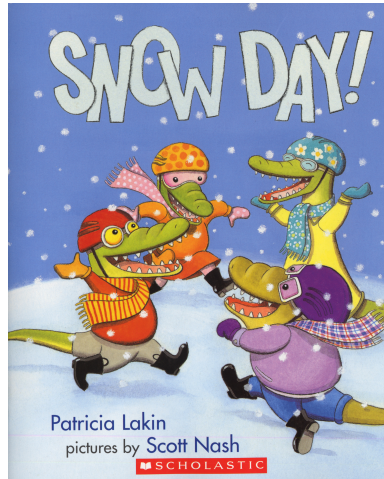


BrainStorm™

Read-Together Ideas



Snow Day!

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ILLUSTRATED BY SCOTT NASH

Summary >> *Snow Day* is a humorous story about four personified crocodiles who are delighted by a snowfall. A clever twist allows them to enjoy the day fully. This book uses high-frequency words, rhyme, strong picture support, and simple dialogue to help children learn vocabulary associated with outdoor clothing and outdoor places.

Key Words

Winter

outerwear:

- *boots
- *mittens
- *scarves
- *helmets
- *goggles

Places:

- *yard
- *walk
- *drive
- *hill

Key Skills and Concepts

LITERACY SKILLS

- *Make predictions (Comprehension)
- *Blend words (Phonemic awareness, phonics)
- *Read with expression (Fluency)

SCIENCE CONCEPT

- *Understand weather trends associated with seasons (Earth science)

Before Reading

***Talk about the title.** Ask your reading partner to read aloud the title, and to talk about any experience he or she may have had with snow. Use your own experience—or lack of experience!—with snow to spark a conversation.

***Flip through the book.** Invite your student to look through the book and talk about what he or she notices, such as the rhyme pattern and use of dialogue. Use this time to discuss any vocabulary your student may not know, such as the multiple-meaning words *drive* and *walk* (used here as nouns instead of verbs).

During Reading

*As you listen to your partner read, provide support, encouragement, and occasional challenges to build

reading skills to better understand the book. Use some or all of the following prompts and questions.

PAGES	SUPPORT THE READING	OBSERVATIONS
3	I see that this character is a crocodile. Why do you think he is excited?	Does your student read with expression? (Fluency)
4-5	Where are all of these characters? What time of day do you think it is? How can you tell?	Does your student notice the picture clues about the time of day? (Comprehension)
6-7	Now we see why this book is titled <i>Snow Day!</i>	Note whether your student is paying attention to the rhyming pattern. (Phonics, phonemic awareness)
16-17	What are the characters ready to do? How can you tell?	Is your student using visual clues as well as the text to understand the story? (Comprehension)
18-19	The characters have run into a problem. What's the problem?	Does your student understand the story's conflict? (Comprehension)
20-21	How do you think the characters will solve this problem?	Take note of your student's prediction.
26-27	Was your prediction correct? Why? Why not?	Does your student understand the surprise twist in the story? (Comprehension)
32	Was this the ending you expected? What is surprising about the ending?	Is your student continuing to read with expression? (Fluency)

After Reading

***Wrap Up.** Talk with your student about the story and about its surprise twist—that the crocodiles are not children, but grown-up school principals! Why is that so surprising? Revisit the pictures on pages 24-27: What are some visual clues that the crocodiles are grown-ups? You may want to reread selected pages in order to practice reading with expression and excitement.

Write It!

*Invite your student to talk about and then write a short summary of what he or she would do on a snow day. The summary can be fiction, like the story, or a "real-life" description.