

The Greatest Show on Earth

Teacher's Notes

Fluent Level 14

Literacy Connections

Word Count: 219 words (approximately, including title)

Reading Skills:

Read for sense

If necessary, check, re-read, and self-correct, using appropriate strategies

Decoding Skills

High Frequency Words: many, ago, some, buy, see, with, this, who, up, what, will, they, have

Blends: 'th' at the beginning of a word:
 the, this, they
 'th' at the end of a word:
 Earth, with, teeth

Alphabet Knowledge: the 'e' sound at the end of a word:
 many, see, three, he, she, very, pretty, heavy, tea, be

Word Study: Describing words (Adjectives):
 greatest, interesting, incredible, sharp, mean, strong, powerful, long

Content Connections

- Dinosaurs
- Volcanoes
- Space and the Solar System
- Night and day
- Earth changes over millions of years
- Extinction

Content Words:

millions, years, Earth, dinosaurs, teeth, claws, meat-eating, horns, legs, neck, tail, plates, spikes, ball tail

Suggested Activities

- Continue to build a list of describing words that appear in the text. Add to this list by asking the students to think of other words that best describe dinosaurs.
- Ask the students if they can name the dinosaurs in the story. Ask them to name other dinosaurs that they know. Have a list of the names recorded. They are big long words and the students will feel proud at being able to read them. Explore how they are made, what they mean and how to pronounce them using syllabification.
- Visit the library, and/or collect a range of materials featuring dinosaurs. Display them in the classroom for independent browsing by the students.
- Let the budding paleontologists in your classroom shine.
- Paint or draw pictures of the "*Greatest Show on Earth*".
- Make models of dinosaurs using clay, dough, papier mâché or even boxes.
- Discuss with the students how the Earth has changed over millions of years.
- Ask the students to think about and then write about why they think there are no more dinosaurs around today.