

Lizzie the Little Lizard

Teacher's Notes

Early Level 11

Literacy Connections

Word Count: 370 words (including title)

Reading Skills:

Reading for meaning

Predicting using the pattern of the text

Using prior knowledge

Comprehension

Decoding Skills

High Frequency Words: little, from, could, out, thought, still, help, called

Blends: "ou" – could
thought
out – about
you – your

Word Study: "wriggled and jiggled"
"stomping and stamping"
"squashing and squeezing"
"munching and crunching"
"long and strong"

Print Conventions: Contractions – couldn't, don't

Text Features: Speech marks

Content Connections

- Friends
- Feelings and fear
- Trust
- Jungle animals and their characteristics
- Animals that hatch from eggs

Content Words:

lizard, elephant, snake, crocodile

shell, cracked, hatching, eggs

sad, worried, scared, afraid

Suggested Activities

- Ask the students to write an "argument", discussing whether or not the animals were really trying to help Lizzie.
- Locate the 'word plays' that occurs within the text. Discuss how they work using the terms alliteration and rhyme. Explain that playing around with word families and sound groups creates these features. Have a go!
- Have "word hunts". Where students find and add to lists words that fit with word families and sound groups that have been selected.
- Practise using speech marks in punctuation exercises that are based on this text.
- Make a chart headed up with "animals Lizzie should trust" and the other side reading, "animals Lizzie shouldn't trust". Discuss the outcomes.
- Organise a "blind walk", where the children, working in pairs, one blindfolded, lead each other around an obstacle course. An exercise in developing trust. Discuss the students' feelings.
- Have the students draw a picture of themselves with their friends. Put this together into a friendship book, special only to your class.
- Ask the children to share something they are scared of. Talk about what it feels like to be afraid, frightened or scared. Spend time discussing what to do if you are scared, who can help you, and how you can help yourself.