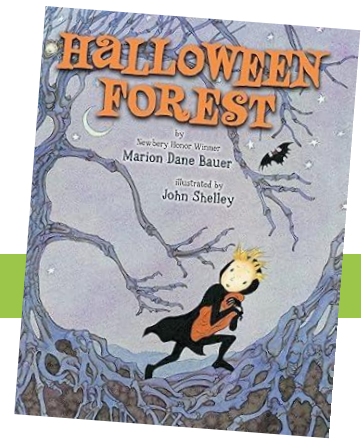


Halloween Forest



READ ALOUD GUIDE

Themes: Spooky, Halloween

Book Brief: The story follows a young girl who ventures into a creepy forest made entirely of bones, with skeleton trees, skull-shaped rocks, and other eerie sights. Despite the frightful surroundings, she remains unafraid, delighting in the spookiness of it all.

Author:
Marion Dane Bauer

Illustrator:
John Shelley

BEFORE READING

The Cover: Ask students to make a prediction about the story based on the cover.

The Pictures: Take a brief picture walk and ask students what they notice.

Prior Knowledge: Ask, “What do you think of when you hear the word “Halloween”?”

Vocabulary: Frontload Tier 2 words using the accompanying [Vocabulary Guide](#).

Purpose for Reading: “As we read, we will use our imagination to visualize the Halloween Forest and think about how the main character feels. We will also look for words and illustrations that make the story feel eerie and exciting.”

DURING READING

Check for understanding & make connections:

- Predict: What do you think will happen next?
- Connect: How would you feel if you walked through this forest?
- Describe: What words or pictures make this story feel spooky?

AFTER READING

Our Purpose: How did the main character feel about the forest? How do you know? What words or illustrations made the story feel spooky?

Extending Our Thinking: Have students draw their own version of a spooky Halloween forest. Encourage them to add spooky trees, creatures, or other eerie details. Tell students to write a sentence describing their forest using one of the new vocabulary words.

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more about the topic by reading other books with similar themes, structure, characters, or content.