

Flight School

A RIF GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

Themes: Adventure, Animals, Perseverance

Book Brief: Although little Penguin has the soul of an eagle, his body wasn't built to soar. But Penguin has an irrepressible spirit, and he adamantly follows his dreams to flip, flap, fly!

Author:
Lita Judge

Illustrator:
Lita Judge



TIME TO READ!

BEFORE WE READ LET'S LOOK AT...

The Cover: Read the title. Look at the cover of the book with students and ask, "What do you see on the cover of this book? What do you think is going to happen to the penguin?" What makes them think that? Discuss student responses and keep them in mind for the picture walk.

Picture Walk: Flip through some pages and ask students what they notice. Remind them of what they shared about the cover. Ask students if they still think the same things based on the pictures in the book, or if they have some new ideas about what will happen in the story. What makes them think that?

Vocabulary: This story will introduce words about penguins and their environment. Use Picture Cards: *hatch, penguin, flap, sea/ocean*. Ask students if they know of words in their home language(s) that mean the same thing as these words.

Purpose for Reading: "As we read, listen for Penguin's problem and see how it is solved."

WHILE WE READ

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (LEVELS 1-4)

Throughout the story, pause and ask...

- **Level 1:** "Point to the penguin on this page."
- **Level 2:** "Can Penguin fly on his own? Yes, or no?" Students can answer yes/no or use a physical response such as thumbs up/down or nodding their head.

- **Level 3:** "How does Flamingo help Penguin?"
- **Level 4:** "What do you think will happen with Ostrich?"

LET'S THINK ABOUT

Our Purpose: Say, "The problem in this story was that Penguin was not able to fly on his own. Explain how he was able to solve his problem."

Extending Our Thinking: Penguin did not give up and kept trying even though it was difficult. Flamingo attached himself to the penguin to help him fly. "Can you think of a time when you couldn't do something on your own? Who helped you? What did they do?"

BOOK ACTIVITY: Penguin Flight Engineering

Materials: Recycling materials (e.g., cardboard, plastic bottles, etc), penguin template, tape, glue stick, scissors, hole punch, markers, string or ribbon

Present this engineering challenge to your students, design a device to help Penguin fly. Review the materials for building. Then allow students time to work individually, in pairs, or in a small group to discuss and construct their designs. Have fun testing them out. Finally, have a whole class discussion to reflect on their designs. What worked well? What could they improve? If time allows, give students an opportunity to improve their designs.

Penguin Template

