

## Going to School: 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade

A RIF Guide for Educators

**Themes:** Elementary School, Back to School, Going to School

**Book Brief:** This guide is designed for use with books about going to school at the 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> Grade reading level. Adapt the questions and activities in this guide to the book you are reading.

**Content Connections:** ELA, Social Studies

### Time To Read!

**Before we read, let's look at...**

**The Cover:** Based on the cover, what kind of school story is this? Is it a mystery, a realistic story, a silly story, or another type of story?

**Prior Knowledge:** Have you read any other books in this series, by this author, or in this genre? Do you think the school in this book will have anything in common with your school or not?

**Vocabulary:** Identify 8-10 words that are likely to be new to your students and introduce them before you read this book with your class.

**Purpose for Reading:** It's important to be able to identify the theme of a story. As we read, think about the central message or lesson.

### While We Read

**Monitoring Comprehension**

- Summarize what happens in this story.
- Describe the main character based on the character's thoughts, words, and actions.
- Determine the point of view, including whether the narration is first or third-person.
- Name a challenge or challenges faced by a character and describe how the character responds.
- Choose two major characters. Compare and contrast their experiences and feelings in the story.

### Let's Think About

**Our Purpose:** What is the theme of this story? How do you know?

**Extending Our Thinking:** In class discussion, compare and contrast your school to the school in the book. Then have each of your students write a paragraph about how the two schools are the same and different. Are there any characteristics of the school in the book students would like their school to have? Or are they glad they are only fictional?