

The Birds at My Barn by Kathleen Hardcastle Moeller

Phonemic Awareness	Phonics	Vocabulary	Fluency, Expression, Pace	Comprehension	Reading/Writing Link
<p>Phonemic awareness is the basis of poetry and figurative language.</p> <p>Explore the author's use of similes and descriptive language:</p> <p>as round as a little bowl</p> <p>as small as pebbles</p> <p>juicy bugs</p> <p>flashes of brilliant blue</p>	<p>Compound words: leftover (pg. 7) bluebirds (pg. 8) mockingbird (pg. 12)</p> <p>Post a chart for students to "hunt" for birds' names that are compound words. (science link)</p> <p>bluebird mockingbird blackbird kingfisher bullfinch rubythroat</p>	<p>pebbles beneath fluttering dazzled searched brilliant perched cawed scolding</p> <p>flashed</p> <p>Select a word(s) to map out meanings together:</p> <p><u>perched/perch</u> a pole, stick, rod a branch serving as a roost for a bird a position that is secure, advantageous, prominent a freshwater fish</p>	<p>How might you read page 11 aloud and have your listener truly "hear" how the crow sounds?</p> <p>Practice "caw-caw-caw" with a friend.</p>	<p>What interesting language does the author use?</p> <p>The use of similes can slow your reader down, help them create mental pictures and make your writing more interesting for a reader.</p> <p>"Her nest was as round as a little bowl."</p> <p>"Her eggs were as small as pebbles."</p>	<p>How did the author move the reader through this piece?</p> <p>The passage of time can be used as a transitional device. Reread some of your pieces of writing; are there passages you could connect using the passage of time?</p> <p>Here are a few phrases to consider from the book: in the cool morning later still late in the day</p>

Guided Reading Level: Fluent 2  
L