

Books for Young Learners Teacher Resource

Book Notes



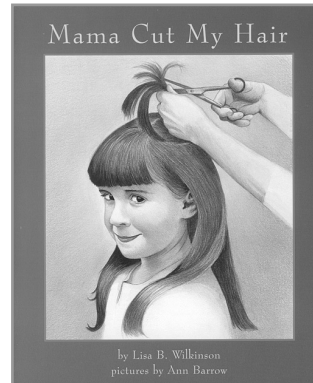
Mama Cut My Hair

Author Lisa B. Wilkinson

Illustrator Ann Barrow

16 pages ■ 136 words

Mamá me cortó el pelo ■ 177 words



Mama Cut My Hair

Em	Early				Fluent			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
	S			G	I			

S = Shared G = Guided I = Independent

SYNOPSIS

A girl gets her hair cut to be like her teacher.

WHAT THE BOOK OFFERS

- Realistic fiction
- First person
- Past tense
- Line breaks do not match chunks of meaning or natural phrasing
- Longer sentence structure
- Repeated two-sentence structure; second sentence remains constant, first sentence structure repeated with different content
- Second sentence in negative and cannot be illustrated
- “When” as conjunction
- “But” as sentence beginning and transition
- Wider range of vocabulary than at earlier level and most books at this level
- Open-ended; no text on final page

POSSIBLE SKILLS EMPHASIS

- Fluency over longer sentences
- Attending to text detail, range of verbs
- Carrying purpose question through book
- Extending story
- Understanding story structure

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Mama Cut My Hair (continued)

INTRODUCING THE BOOK

- Use the cover illustration to discuss the girl's reaction to having her hair cut.
- Discuss why we get our hair cut, who cuts our hair, and talk with classmates who have long or very short hair, asking why they do or do not have their hair cut so often/seldom.

FOCUS OF INSTRUCTION

- Identify the first sentence of each page, telling what happened and when, and constant second sentence.
- Discuss function of "when" and "but."
- Read sentence in head to aid fluency and expression before reading it orally.

FOLLOWING THE READING

- List reasons for not getting hair cut and draw students' attention to the range of verbs
- Write text for final page—dialogue between teacher and child about hair cut.
- Discuss story structure; several possibilities discounted with repeated chorus line before reason revealed and consider how this heightens reader's anticipation.