Close Reading

1\textsuperscript{st} Read – Scratch the Surface
  • get the gist of the text

2\textsuperscript{nd} Read – Discover New Words
  • highlight/underline any unfamiliar words
  • use context clues to determine the meaning of the word
  • write the definition on the text

3\textsuperscript{rd} read – Dig a Little Deeper
  • determine the main idea of each paragraph or section of the text
  • write the main idea on a post-it

4\textsuperscript{th} read – Analyze the Text
  • teacher determines (identify theme, cause and effect, author’s purpose, etc.)
Bats Are the Best Beasts

When you think of bats, you may think of them as flying creatures that look like rats with wings. Many people find bats to be very strange, even creepy, animals.

You might think differently if you knew that you and bats are alike in a few ways. For instance, humans and bats are both mammals. Mammals are warm-blooded animals that have fur. You may not realize that you have fur, but you do. The hair on your head is a kind of fur. The hair on your arms and legs is also fur!

Another feature that you share with bats is your hands. A bat’s hand is actually its wing. If you looked closely at each detail of a bat’s wing, you would see that the bones are arranged very much like a person’s hand! The bones are covered in a thin skin that makes up a bat’s wing. A bat’s hands, or wings, make it very special. Bats are the only mammals that can fly.

There are a lot of things that people think about bats that are untrue. For instance, people say “blind as a bat,” but bats have very good eyesight. The saying may have come from the bat’s habit of flying only at night. People assumed that since they couldn’t see in the dark, bats couldn’t either!

Bats use an unusual method to find their way in the dark. They use something called echolocation. When a bat uses echolocation, it makes a high-pitched squeak and then listens for the echoes to bounce back. Bats have special ears that can read these sound signals. The bat can then follow the signals to locate things in the dark.

Bats love to find things in the dark. It’s what they do best. Their favorite things to find are bugs. When a bat locates a bug, it swoops in and snatches it out of the air. Bats are very skilled flyers. Their unique wing design allows them to change direction in mid-flight with a twitch of a finger. A bat’s echolocation and exceptional flying ability come together to produce an incredible bug-eating beast. Bats can consume tons and tons of bugs. Even though a bug slithers from its grasp occasionally, one bat can devour 600 mosquitoes in an hour.

Some kinds of bats live on their own. Many other bat species live in groups called colonies. Bats are nocturnal, which means they are active at night and doze during the day. A bat colony snuggles together, roosting upside down in safe enclosed places such as caves, old buildings, or under bridges.

When you understand how beneficial bats are to the environment, you start thinking about them differently. No longer do you see them as scary night creatures. You know them for what they truly are: the best beasts to clear hundreds of mosquitoes from a summer’s night sky.
Lesson 6 Vocabulary
Bat Loves the Night

Part of Speech

1. ______ detail - each part of several items of information
2. ______ squeak - a short, high pitched sound
3. ______ echoes - repeating sounds caused by the rebounding of sound waves from a surface
4. ______ swoops - to descend quickly with a sweeping motion
5. ______ twitch - to move with a slight jerk
6. ______ slithers - to move in a slippery way
7. ______ doze - to sleep lightly
8. ______ snuggles - to curl up closely

Vocabulary in Context

- Study each Context Card.
- Make up a new sentence that uses two Vocabulary words.

Talk About the Writer’s Words
Use the blue Vocabulary words in new sentences that tell about the photos. Write the sentences.

Add new words to myWord list. Use them in your speaking and writing.
VCV Words with Long and Short Vowels

Read each sentence. Choose the missing word from the box. Write the word. Then reread the complete sentence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>visit</th>
<th>robot</th>
<th>flavor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>tiny</td>
<td>limit</td>
<td>shiver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>report</td>
<td>decide</td>
<td>gravel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. We took a bumpy ride down a ________________ road in the country.

2. Chocolate is my favorite ________________ of ice cream.

3. I ________________ the amount of sweets that I eat.

4. My sister has a collection of ________________ glass animals.

5. I need to pick a topic for my ________________.

6. It was hard to ________________ which movie to watch.

7. The icy rain made me ________________.

8. Steve hopes to ________________ the Space Museum someday.

9. That interesting machine is called a ________________.
Suffixes *-able, -ible*

**Bats**

Ella walked up to her brother, who was sitting at the computer. “What are you doing?”

“I am reading about bats,” said Oliver.

“Can I read with you?” asked Ella.

Oliver was agreeable. Ella got comfortable next to him.

“So far I have learned that bats are valuable to the environment,” Oliver said. “Many eat mostly insects, so they help control the insect population. Also, some feed on pollen and nectar, helping to pollinate certain flowers.”

“Bat wings look more flexible than bird wings,” Ella said.

“That’s a reasonable observation,” Oliver said. “Let’s see what we can find out about their wings.” They read on to find out.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
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*Vocabulary Strategies*

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Suffixes -able, -ible

Write a sentence using the words provided. Make sure the sentence helps the reader understand the meaning of the word.

1. agreeable

2. valuable

3. reversible

4. comfortable

5. breakable

6. sensible

7. spreadable

8. flexible
Flow Chart: Sequence of Events
Bat Loves the Night

File a Missing Bat Report

One night you were looking out of your window with your binoculars when you saw a bat flying through the sky. Scientists who are tracking the bat want some information, and you have that information. Fill out this missing bat report using information from the text.

Read pages 212-214. What was the first thing you saw the bat do when you looked out the window?

____________________________________________________________________________________

Read pages 215-217. Someone reported the bat was swooping and gliding through the sky. What do you think she was doing?

____________________________________________________________________________________

Read pages 218-219. We have evidence that a moth showed up at some point. Did you see what happened? Tell us, step by step.

First, ___________________________________________________________________________

Then, ___________________________________________________________________________

Finally, __________________________________________________________________________

Independent Reading
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Read pages 220-221. You are the only one to see where the bat went next. Describe what happened.

__________________________________________________________

Read pages 222-224. We suspect that there are baby bats living in the barn. Tell us everything you know about the babies.

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

Read page 225. Now we think we know where the bat is. What do you think the bat is doing? When can we see this bat again?

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________
Cumulative Review

Write a word from the box to complete each sentence. Then read the complete sentence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>pilot</th>
<th>planet</th>
<th>tiger</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>second</td>
<td>visit</td>
<td>bacon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>flavor</td>
<td>finish</td>
<td>cabins</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Can we play outside after we _________________ our homework?

2. My cousins came to _________________ us last summer.

3. As we were leaving the plane, the _________________ shook my hand.

4. The scouts stayed in small _________________ near the lake.

5. Chocolate is the _________________ of ice cream that I like best.

6. Would you like _________________ with your eggs?

7. Look! That reddish light in the sky is the _________________ Mars!

8. Brad came in _________________ in the race, right behind Jay.

9. We watched a _________________ sleep under the tree.
VOCABULARY FOR BAT LOVES THE NIGHT

Name __________________ Date __________

Write the vocabulary word that matches the definition.

1. __________ a small piece of information

2. __________ a short, high sound like that made by a mouse

3. __________ to curl up closely, cuddle

4. __________ to drop suddenly, especially when flying

5. __________ the repetition of a sound, sent back by sound waves

6. __________ to make a sudden, jumpy movement

7. __________ to sleep lightly

8. __________ to move in a slippery way

echoes  swoops  slithers  dozes

squeak  twitch  snuggles  detail
Put the vocabulary words in alphabetical order.

echoes  swoops  slithers  dozes

squeak  twitch  snuggles  detail

1. __________________________

2. __________________________

3. __________________________

4. __________________________

5. __________________________

6. __________________________

7. __________________________

8. __________________________