

TITLE: ACORN THE PONY
LEVEL: F



INTRODUCE THE BOOK

Before students begin to read, make them familiar with the important ideas, plot, new language structures, and new words in the book. Prepare them for a successful first reading of the story. You might say:

- "This book is about a girl named Emma who wants a pony. Her chance comes when her friend Abby is moving and can't take her pony, Acorn, with her."
- "Turn to pages 2 and 3. Emma says to Abby, 'I wish I had a pony.'"
- "Now turn the pages. Emma talks to her mom and dad about fixing up the barn so she can have Acorn."
- "Turn to page 8. Emma's dad says, 'Who will feed Acorn? Who will brush him?' Find who, and put your finger under it."
- "Now turn to page 12. Emma says, 'My wish came true!'"
- "Turn back to the beginning of the book to read about Emma and Acorn."

READ THE STORY

Encourage each student to read the entire book in a soft reading voice. Listen to students' reading and prompt for and/or praise strategic processing. Refer to the Level F Prompting Guide for a list of desired reading behaviors and suggested actions to take.

DISCUSS THE STORY

Invite students to talk about the story. Encourage students to make connections to their own experiences and/or other stories they have read. Below are some discussion ideas.

- Talk about how Emma felt about Abby moving.
- Ask students' about their experiences with ponies.


FOLLOW-UP TEACHING

Based on your observations of students' reading, select one or two teaching points that will be most helpful to all students. You might:

- Have students locate the word *who*. Have them make the word *who* with magnetic letters and/or write the word on paper, a magnetic dry-erase easel, or in a sand tray.
- Practice reading the book together a bit faster to develop some fluency and phrasing.




You Will Need:

- Magnetic dry-erase easel
- Magnetic letters
-  Picture card (*shoe*)

EXTEND KNOWLEDGE OF WORDS AND LETTERS

In this lesson, students will learn to hear consonant blends.

Steps:

The  icon indicates that some of the resources needed to complete these steps are available for downloading at pioneervalleybooks.com/pawprints-resources.

1. Explain to students that they are going to play a listening game to hear two letters at the beginning of words.
2. Show a picture of a shoe and have students say the word *shoe* with you.
3. Explain that the word *shoe* starts with two letters (*sh*). Lots of words start with this sound.
4. Make *shoe* with magnetic letters on the easel.
5. Make the following words with magnetic letters: *ship, sheep, shut*.
6. Help students listen for the *sh* sound and notice what it looks like.

SUPPORTING ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

Consider what additional challenges the lesson might present for English language learners.

- Make sure that students understand what is needed to care for a pony.
- Ask students to repeat the language structures in the book several times.

For the Lesson Extension Activity for this book, go to pioneervalleybooks.com/pawprints.