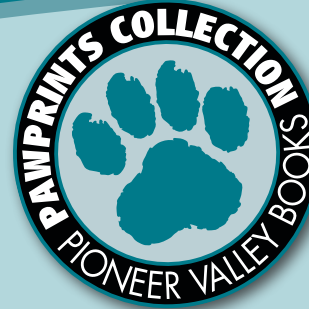




TITLE: LITTLE KNIGHT
AND THE KITTEN
LEVEL: L



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 little mouse who calls himself Little Knight. A new kitten has moved into the house and Mother Mouse wants Little Knight to be careful."
- "Turn to pages 6 and 7. Little Knight thinks the kitten looks friendly but Mother Mouse reminds him about what happened to his Uncle Harry."
- "Turn to page 8. Look at what Little Knight is doing with the kitten."
- "Now turn the pages and see what happens."
- "Turn back to the beginning and read about Little Knight and the kitten."

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 L 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.

- Why do you think the kitten helped Little Knight?
- Discuss students' experiences with going against their parents' advice. Do they think it was a good idea here? Why or why not?

FOLLOW-UP TEACHING

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

- Have the students locate the word *between* on page 15. Have them make the word *between* 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 fluency and phrasing.



You Will Need:

- Magnetic dry erase easel
- Magnetic letters

EXTEND KNOWLEDGE OF WORDS AND LETTERS

In this lesson students will learn that the suffix est is used to compare more than two things.

Steps:

1. Say "Today we are going to look at words that end in est. The suffix est is used on many words to compare more than two things."
2. Make the word *tallest* with magnetic letters. Break the word apart (*tall-est*).
3. Say "I'm going to use this word in a sentence so you can see what happens to the meaning. *I am tall but Billy is the tallest person in the room.*"
4. Have the students talk about what the sentence means.
5. Repeat with the following words: *longest, loudest, youngest, softest, and brightest.*
6. Use the words in sentences so the students can discuss what each word means and how it is changed by adding the suffix est.

SUPPORTING ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

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

- Check to see that students understand that Little Knight is taking a chance making friends with the kitten.
- Ask students to repeat the language structure in the new book several times.

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