Grade : 3rd
Strategy : Predicting
Technique : Mind Mapping
Text Type : Fiction

Granny Fox Gives Reddy a Scare - By Thornton W. Burgess

Aims of the lesson:

- To help students develop their prediction skills while reading.
- To engage students with the narrative through critical thinking and connections.
- To foster a deeper understanding of characters and plot progression.

Text for lesson:

Reddy Fox lived with Granny Fox in the Green Meadows. Granny Fox was the wisest, slyest fox in all the countryside, and she thought it was time that Reddy started to learn some things that every fox should know. So, she taught him how to steal Farmer John's chickens without waking Bowser the Hound. And she taught him all kinds of ways to fool a dog. Today Granny Fox was taking Reddy through the Green Forest
Reddy had never been that far from home, and he wondered where they were going.

They came to a railroad track, and trotted along on it for a while until they came to a long bridge. At the edge of the bridge, Reddy looked down at the river far below. It made him feel dizzy. When he looked up, Granny Fox was running lightly across the bridge.
"Come across," Granny Fox called to Reddy. But Reddy was afraid. He was afraid to put one food on that long bridge. He was afraid he would fall through it and into the water below. Granny Fox ran back to him. She sat down beside him. "Shame on you," she said. "What are you afraid of? Just don't look down. Come on. Just follow me." But Reddy couldn't do it. He just sat there beside Granny and let out a little whimper.

Suddenly, Granny Fox sprang to her feet, as if in great fright. "Bowser the Hound, Reddy! Come, Reddy, come!" And she started across the bridge as fast as she could go.

Reddy didn't stop to look. He didn't stop to think. His one idea was to get away from Bowser the Hound. "Wait, Granny! Wait!" he cried, and started after her as fast as he could run. Before he knew it, he was on the other side. He looked around to see where Bowser the Hound might be, but he was nowhere to be seen. Could he have fallen off the bridge?

"Where is Bowser the Hound?" cried Reddy. "Why, he is home in Farmer Brown's yard," replied Granny Fox. Reddy stared at her for a minute. Then he began to understand. Granny Fox had simply scared him into running across the bridge. He felt silly, very silly indeed. "Now we'll run back again, said Granny Fox. And this time Reddy did.

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Process Phase 1: Planning (Teachers' perspective)
During this stage, the teacher prepares:

- The text "Granny Fox Gives Reddy a Scare" for reading.
- Prediction activities and respective questions.
- Materials for student journaling and group discussions.

Cognitive Stage 1 (Students' perspective)
Step 1: Initial Predictions
Activity:

- Present the title "Granny Fox Gives Reddy a Scare."
- Ask students to predict what the story might be about based on the title and any keywords provided. Have them share their predictions with a partner and discuss.

Cognitive Stage 2 (Students' perspective)
Step 2: Vocabulary Building
Activity:

- Provide the vocabulary words: recognized, feathers, distress, soothed.
- Have students discuss the meanings of these words as they may relate to the story, enhancing their understanding of the text.

Process Phase 2: Engaging with the Text
Step 3: Making Predictions Based on the Text
Activity:

- Read the introduction where Reddy Fox lives with Granny Fox and pause at a key moment.
- Ask students to predict what might happen next with choices:
  - A. Reddy already knew the forest where Granny Fox was taking him.
  - B. Reddy knew that the forest was near their home.
- Discuss their predictions as a class, comparing them to the unfolding story.

Process Phase 3: Connecting to Character Experiences
Step 4: Empathy and Reflection
Activity:

- After Reddy feels dizzy as they approach the bridge, ask students how they think he feels about crossing it.
- Prompt them to think of a time they were scared or uncertain and to write or share that experience, making a connection to Reddy's emotions.

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Cognitive Stage 3 (Students' perspective)
Step 5: Continuing Predictions
Activity:

- As the story progresses and Reddy faces challenges, pause and ask students to predict the outcome based on what they have read so far.
- Provide new choices related to the continuing events, focusing on what they think will happen next based on Reddy's actions:
    - A. Reddy takes a deep breath, and runs after Granny Fox.
    - B. Reddy is too afraid to go across the bridge.
    - C. Reddy falls through the bridge into the river.
- Students should justify their choices based on textual clues.

Process Phase 4: Developing New Conclusions
Step 6: Exploring Alternate Endings
Activity:

- Nearing the end of the story, ask students to predict an alternate ending based on Reddy's character development and experiences.
- Challenge them to rewrite a different conclusion for the story, justifying their predictions and new ending based on events from the text.

Ways of Communication:

- **Interpretive** - Students interpret the storyline and character motivations based on textual clues and context.
- **Interpersonal** - Students engage in discussions with peers, practicing collaborative learning.
- **Presentational** - Students present their predictions, reflections, and new endings, improving communication skills.

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