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

Granny Fox Shows Reddy a Trick - By Thornton W. Burgess

Aims of the lesson:

- To help students develop their ability to make predictions while reading.
- To engage students with the narrative through critical thinking and personal connections.
- To foster a deeper understanding of character development and plot progression.

Text for lesson:

Things that every fox should know. So she taught him how to steal Farmer John's chickens without waking Bowser the Hound. Now she is teaching him not to be afraid of crossing the railroad bridge. Every day she made him run back and forth across the bridge until he had no fear of it at all. "What good is it to cross a bridge?" Reddy grumbled. "Anybody can do that." Granny picked up her ears. "Shhh," she said. "Listen." Reddy picked his ears, too, and heard the bark of a dog. Bowser the Hound! "Now, Reddy," Granny said, "you run across the bridge and watch from the top of the little hill over there. Perhaps I can show you a little trick that will teach you why I made you learn to run across the bridge."

Reddy trotted across the long bridge and up to the top of the hill, as Granny had told him to. He sat down to watch. Granny trotted over to a clearing and sat down. Pretty soon Bowser the Hound broke through the bushes. He spotted Granny and started to bark, and run toward her. As soon as Granny was sure the hound had seen her, she started to run too, but she did not run very fast. Reddy didn't know what to make of it. It was almost like Granny was playing with the hound, and not really trying to get away at all. Then Reddy heard another sound. It was a long, low rumble. Then there was a distant whistle. It was a train! Granny heard it, too. She started to work her way back to the bridge. The train was in sight now, behind her Suddenly Granny Fox started across the bridge so fast that she looked like a little red streak. The hound was close at her heels, and he was so eager to catch her that he didn't notice either the bridge ahead of him or the train behind him.

But Bowser the Hound could not run as fast as Granny Fox! When she reached the other side of the bridge, he wasn't even halfway across, and right behind him, whistling for him to get out of the way, was the train. The hound gave one frightened yelp, and jumped down into the river below, which carried him far downstream before he could swim ashore. "Now you know why I wanted you to learn to cross a bridge. It's a very nice way of getting rid of dogs," said Granny Fox, as she climbed up beside Reddy.

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

- The text "Granny Fox Shows Reddy a Trick" for reading.
- Prediction activities and corresponding questions.
- Materials for student journaling and group discussions.

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

- Present the title "Granny Fox Shows Reddy a Trick."
- Ask students to predict what the story may be about based on the title and any keywords or context you provide.
- Allow students to write their predictions in their journals or share them with a partner.

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

- Provide the vocabulary words: grumbled, trotted, clearing, heels, eager.
- Have students discuss the meanings of these words and share their ideas or context in which they might have encountered them.

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

- Read the first part of the story, highlighting Reddy Fox's interaction with Granny Fox.
- Pause after Granny Fox instructs Reddy to run across the bridge, then ask students to predict what will happen next:
    - Circle the chosen prediction:
        - A. Reddy runs across the bridge and up to the top of the little hill.
        - B. Reddy decides it would be safer to stay right there with Granny.
        - C. It wasn't Bowser the Hound after all—Reddy had just imagined hearing the bark.
- Discuss their predictions as a class and compare them to the actual unfolding of the story.

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Cognitive Stage 3 (Students' perspective)
Step 4: Continuing Predictions
Activity:

- Continue reading as Granny Fox teaches Reddy about crossing the bridge, and pause after introducing the train.
- Ask students to make another prediction about what happens next:
  - Circle the chosen option:
    - A. Granny tells Reddy to run back across the bridge.
    - B. Granny runs toward the bridge, but then hides in the bushes.
    - C. Granny runs to the bridge and gets across before the train gets there.
- Allow students to justify their choices based on the context and details provided in the text.

Process Phase 4: Concluding Predictions and Alternate Endings
Step 5: Alternate Ending and Reflections
Activity:

- As you approach the conclusion of the story, pause before revealing the ending.
- Ask students how they think the story will end based on clues from the text.
- Challenge them to write an alternate ending for the story, justifying their predictions and referencing events and themes discussed so far.

Ways of Cummunication:

- **Interpretive** - Students interpret character actions, motivations, and plot developments based on textual evidence.
- **Interpersonal** - Students engage in discussions, sharing reflections, and predictions in pairs or small groups.
- **Presentational** - Students present their predictions, reflections, and alternate endings, enhancing their communication skills.

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