

LPF Reading Exemplar

Bird Hotel

Task Description

In this reading activity, students read a story about Mrs Biddle's special encounter with the birds coming to her tree. Students then responded to the related questions.

Preparation

Before the reading activity, the teacher oriented students to the topic by eliciting their personal experience with birds. Students were then guided to read the book cover to anticipate the likely development of the story by answering the following questions:

- What is unusual about the tree? Have you seen this before? Which places or countries can you find this?
- How would you feel if you lived close to this tree? Why?
- What would you do then?
- Do you think the character in the story liked living close to this tree? Why?

Learning Outcomes: ATMs 2-3

ATM 2

Understanding information, ideas and feelings in a small range of short simple texts, using some reading strategies as appropriate

ATM 3

Understanding and inferring information, ideas and feelings in a small range of simple texts, using and integrating a small range of reading strategies as appropriate

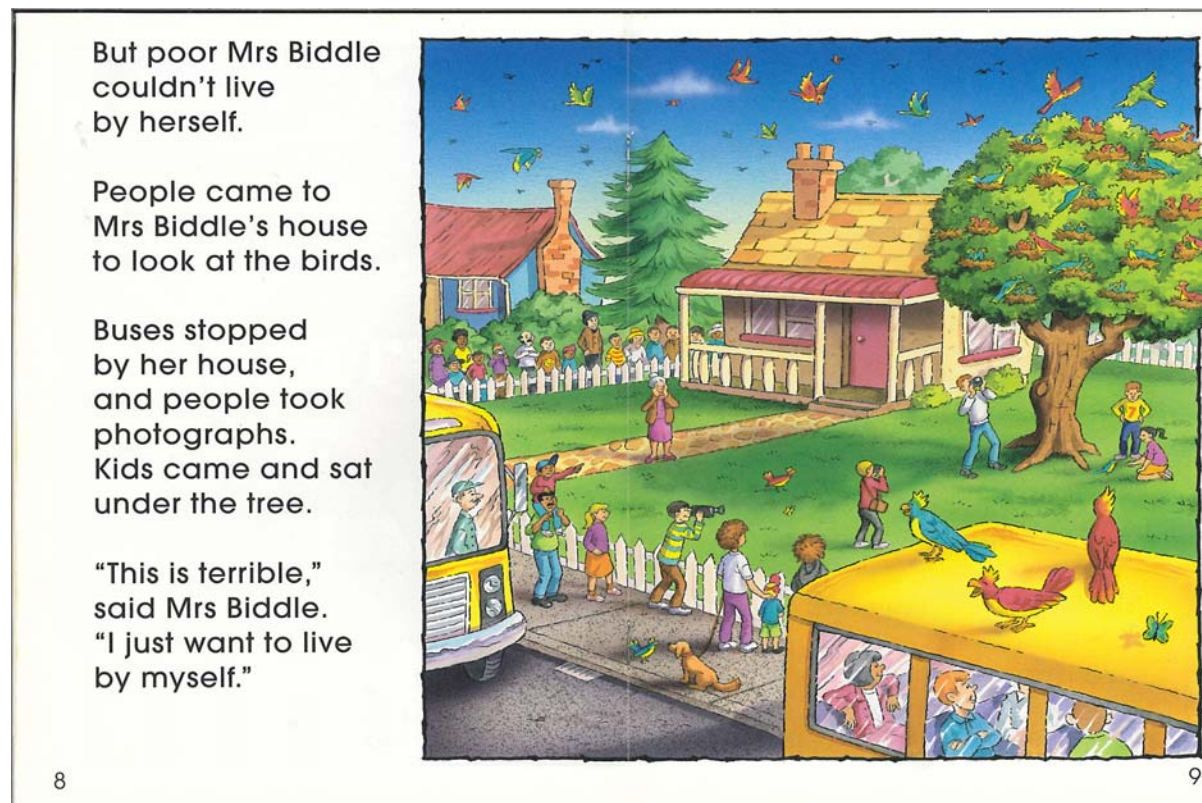
Questions	When students respond to the questions appropriately, they can:
<p>1. What were the birds doing in Mrs Biddle's tree when she first saw them?</p> <p><i><u>They were making nests in her tree and chirping.</u></i></p>	<p>ATM 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">locate specific information by<ul style="list-style-type: none">identifying key words, e.g. 'One day', 'saw', 'birds', 'making nests', 'chirping'understanding the use of simple cohesive devices, e.g. the personal pronoun 'they' to refer to the birds and the connective 'and' to link ideas
<p>2. Read up to page 5. 'But the birds stayed in Mrs Biddle's tree, and they chirped all day.' What does the word 'chirped' mean?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> a. flew everywhere with worms and bugs</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> b. <i>made sharp sounds</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> c. made nests in the tree</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> d. gave birth to baby birds in the nests</p>	<p>ATM 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">work out the meaning of the word 'chirped' by using semantic clues, e.g. 'What a noise!'

<p>3. a) Read up to page 8. What happened to Mrs Biddle? Why do you think so? Give two reasons.</p> <p><u><i>Mrs Biddle couldn't live by herself.</i></u> <u><i>People came to her house to look at the birds.</i></u> <u><i>Buses stopped by and people took photographs.</i></u> <u><i>Kids sat under the tree.</i></u> <i>(Any two)</i></p> <p>b) What would Mrs Biddle do to the birds?</p> <p><u><i>She would send the birds away.</i></u></p>	<p>ATM 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify main ideas and some supporting details explicitly stated in the text, e.g. 'People came to Mrs Biddle's house...', 'Buses stopped by her house...', 'Kids came and sat under the tree.' • make predictions about the likely development of the text by identifying meaningful chunks, e.g. 'This is terrible. I just want to live by myself.'
<p>4. Read page 12. What did Mrs Biddle miss most? Why do you think so?</p> <p><u><i>She missed the birds most because she made a sign 'Bird Hotel Vacancy'.</i></u></p>	<p>ATM 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • infer ideas by using clues in close proximity, e.g. the use of exclamation mark to convey her strong emotion in 'And... she missed the birds!' and the connective 'so' to explain her action in 'So Mrs Biddle made a sign and put it on the tree.'

Extract from **Bird Hotel** by **Jill Eggleton** (pp. 2, 8-9 & 12-13)



(Materials adapted from **Bird Hotel** – Text by **Jill Eggleton** and Illustrations by **Richard Hoit** with the permission of **Pearson Education New Zealand**)



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Winter came.
Mrs Biddle
missed the people
stopping by her house.
She missed the people
taking photographs.
She missed the kids
sitting under her tree.

And . . .

she missed the birds!

So Mrs Biddle made a sign
and she put it on the tree.

Bird Hotel
Vacancy



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