The ABCs To Early Literacy Development

by Patty York Raymond
Learning Objectives

Participants will learn:

1. How to teach students phonological awareness
2. How to facilitate students’ understanding of new vocabulary
3. How to support students to
   A. Make inferences based on the examination of the cover, title, illustrations and plot.
   B. Identify elements of a story including setting, character, and key events.
   C. Draw conclusions about themes, making connections to their own experiences while acting out important events in the stories.
   D. Analyze a story.
It’s Too Windy!

It’s Too Windy! is about family and how establishing long-lasting traditions leads to developing close family ties that last a lifetime. This enchanting book is about Jessica and David, a young sister and brother, who come to town every chance they have in order to visit with their grandparents and to play with their cousins.
The ABCs to Ranching is a cultural perspective on ranching in South Texas. It is a humorous account of a mischievous young boy determined to help his father with the chores. “Let’s go,” he yells to his Catahoula Cowdog as his father warns him not to get underfoot. With one mishap after another, the young boy develops an appreciation for nature and a strong connection to his father and their heritage—all centered on the alphabet. The ABCs to Ranching is accompanied by a music CD that is sure to get the children singing and dancing!
Phonological Awareness

• Is the key predictor of later reading success
• Begins before children have sorted out letter learning
• Is successfully taught to children
• Develops along a continuum in which being able to attend to the larger units of sound
• Sets the stage for learning to attend to the smallest units of sound
• Is a key understanding for the alphabetic principle
So How Can Phonological Awareness be Successfully Taught To Children?
Activity:
Read All About It
Sentence Segmenting
(It’s Too Windy!)

We bring lots of candy to share.

We bring lots of food to eat.

We bring lots of handprints to frame.
Sentence Segmenting: Beach Ball Bounce
(It’s Too Windy!)

We bring lots of American flags to wave.
The fish aren’t biting today!

The Texas spiny lizard can be sneaky.

I shriek as I beat a retreat.
Syllable Segmenting & Blending:
Pool Side Fun Activity
(based on It’s Too Windy!)
Syllable Segmenting & Blending: Gone Fishing Activity (based on The ABCs to Ranching)
Onset-Rime Chant: It’s Too Windy!

- hop
- drop
- cards
- crack
- dare
- town
Onset-Rime Chant: The ABCs to Ranching

• cattle
• deer
• horse
• poop
• snake
• turtle
Alliteration

• Catahoula Cowdog
• prickly pear
• somewhat squishy
• strong stinky smell
• good grief
• Yeah Yippee Yahoo

Rhyming words

• scare- dare
• okay- say –day- display
• behave -cave
• caught -got
• zig zag -tag
• sly -fly
• monte -papalote
• seek -creek
• skyward -awkward
• quail -tail
• rattle -tattle
• rancheros- vaqueros

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Rhyming
Listening Bingo:
The ABCs to Ranching
The Alphabetic Principle

Children's knowledge of letter names and shapes is a strong predictor of their success in learning to read. Knowing letter names is strongly related to children's ability to remember the forms of written words and their ability to treat words as sequences of letters.

Children whose alphabetic knowledge is not well developed when they start school need sensibly organized instruction that will help them identify, name, and write letters. Once children are able to identify and name letters with ease, they can begin to learn letter sounds and spellings.
Choral Reading & Shared Reading

One thing we like to do when we visit our grandparents is go swimming in their backyard pool.

“Hooray! Yeah! Yippee! Yahoo!”

But my grandmother says, “It is too ______________ !”

“Okay,” we say as we run off and play.

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**Directions:** Brainstorm synonyms for the weather words in *It’s Too Windy!*

**Synonym:** a word or phrase that means exactly or nearly the same as another word or phrase.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>windy</th>
<th>sunny</th>
<th>chilly</th>
<th>hazy</th>
<th>drizzly</th>
<th>muggy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

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• We bring lots of candy to share.

• We bring lots of food to eat.

• We bring lots of presents.

• We bring lots of “Be Mine” cards to pass out.

• We bring lots of cascarones or confetti eggs to crack on their heads.

• We bring lots of American flags to wave ‘cause our grandpa is a hero.

• We bring lots of handprints to frame.
Directions: In the story map, name the various holidays that Jessica and David’s family celebrated in It’s Too Windy! Use the clues to help you. Then Choose one holiday you celebrate with your family to compare and contrast it with how their family celebrates it.
Infusing New and Rare Words
(It’s Too Windy!)

mistletoe
display
town
visit
duck
yuck
cascarones
midst

confetti
gift
celebrate
fireworks
independence
applaud
enough
dare
tiptoe
exclaim

chilly
muggy
hazy
drizzly
windy
sunny
stuffed
sidestep

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Infusing New and Rare Words
(The ABCs to Ranching)

arrowheads
grazing
pastureland
mischievous
zig-zag
sly
stirrup
gallop
arid
scamper
piercing
discreetly
sneaky
retreat
sting
sharp
exploring
squishy
stomped
basking
tad
exhausted
trot
canter
monte
papalote
creek
curious
awkward
skittish
underfoot
vaqueros
xerophytes
Direct Vocabulary Instruction: Tiptoe
means to walk quietly and carefully with your heels raised and with your weight on the balls of the feet.
Direct Vocabulary Instruction: Applaud means to show approval or praise by clapping.
Direct Vocabulary Instruction: Stomp means to bring down (the foot) forcibly.
**Making Inferences**: Good readers make inferences, or conclusions, as they read or as they are read to. It’s an important skill for understanding text, as authors often imply themes and ideas, without stating them outright.

The grandmother in *It’s Too Windy!* redirects the children’s play and cites unsatisfactory weather conditions as the reason for not letting them get in the pool. Do you think the weather is the real reason why she doesn’t let them get in the pool or do you think she has an ulterior motive for not letting her grandchildren go swimming? If so, what do you think it is?

Write or draw your response below. Be ready to justify your reasoning.

_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
Letter Wall
horse

nopal

Harris’s hawk
# Identifying, sorting and classifying animal coverings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feather</th>
<th>Hair</th>
<th>Scales</th>
<th>Shell</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image1.png" alt="Feather" /></td>
<td><img src="image2.png" alt="Hair" /></td>
<td><img src="image3.png" alt="Scales" /></td>
<td><img src="image4.png" alt="Shell" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Hop, Hop and Hop ‘til you Drop Game

Adapted from the “Wiggle Worm Activity” by Jean R. Feldman, Ph.D.

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Language Building Strategies: Expand and Extend the language heard and used by children

Label: Name
Describe: Telling how something looks, tastes, sounds, feels and smells
Explain: Tells how things work or why we do things.
Compare: Telling how items are the same or not the same.
Link: Making the connection between new objects, ideas, or concepts and something the child already knows or has experienced.
Goggles
Instructional Experiences

• Picture Walk (predictions, asking questions, making connections, inferences)
• Retelling and Sequencing the Story
  • Flannel boards
  • Puppets
  • Acting out/dramatizing (dramatic play)
  • Adding music to story retelling
  • Story boxes
  • Children Tell Their Stories (dictate)
• Create a Class Book (write your favorite part of the story)
• Language Experience Chart: 1. children write a letter to David and Jessica about their own experiences in visiting their grandparents, 2. children add additional holidays and/or weather conditions.
• Integrate with other content areas (Science, Math, Social Studies/cultural awareness)- storymat on how many children are in the pool and how many are out; sequencing events with cards, board game, graphing daily weather conditions, use book as springboard to lessons on family traditions and cultures.
• Whole/Small Group/Center Activities/Routines & Transitions
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Center Games
Horseshoe Ring Toss
Art

Horse puppet

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Directions: Draw your favorite part of *It’s Too Windy!* in the middle of the beachball and then color the rest of it. Tell why you liked it.
Directions: Draw your favorite part of *The ABCs to Ranching* on the hat and then color the rest of it. Tell why you liked it.
Story Elements
Sentence Strip Books

A cowboy and cowgirl can
5 Little Cowboys
(Fingerplay)

5 little cowboys sitting on a gate.
The 1st one said, “Gee, rodeos are great!”
The 2nd one said, “There are buzzards in the air.”
The 3rd one said, “But we don’t care.”
The 4th one said, “Let’s watch the horses run.”
The 5th one said, “I’m ready for some fun!”
Ooooodle went the wind and off went their hats,
And the 5 little cowboys fell from where they sat.”
Directions: Consider other holidays that could be used to continue the story line for It’s Too Windy! Choose one and add your words to the patterned text. Don’t forget to illustrate your work.

It’s Too Windy! – A Continuing Story
By

My brother and I visit our grandparents every time we come into town. We bring lots of ____________ to _______________.

We get to see all of our cousins and play with them too. ________________________________

______________________________.
Writing Prompts

• What is your favorite animal in *The ABCs to Ranching* and why?
• Which chore would you help with at the ranch? How you would do it?
• Write a letter to Lucky, the Catahoula Cowdog, and tell her why you would want to go to the ranch.
• Bring a hat from home that you like and write or list all the different ways you can use it.
• My best friend is ______, because...
• Picture prompts:

The dung beetles are planning to_____
This roadrunner is in a hurry because_____
The baby opossums are thinking that_____

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Your Turn!
If Your Name Starts With... (to the tune of “If You’re Happy and You Know it.”)
(For the Characters: David and Jessica)

If your name starts with **A** turn around.
If your name starts with **B** touch the ground.
If your name starts with **C** then stand up and touch your knee.
Clap your hands If your name starts with **D**.

If your name starts with **E** wink your eye.
If your name starts with **F** try to fly.
If your name starts with **G** blow a kiss up here to me.
If your name starts with **H** say “Hee Hee!”
If your name starts with **I** tap your toe.
If your name starts with **J** say “Ho Ho!”
If your name starts with **K** then stand up and start to sway.
If your name starts with **L** say “Ole!”

If your name starts with **M** make a smile.
If your name starts with **N** shake awhile.
If your name starts with **O** put your elbow on your toe.
If your name starts with **P** say “I know!”
If your name starts with **Q** raise your hand.
If your name starts with **R** you should stand.
If your name starts with **S** you should pat your head, I guess.
If your name starts with **T** say “Oh, yes!”

If your name starts with **U** touch your eye.
If your name starts with **V** pat your thigh.
If your name starts with **W, X, Y, or Z**
Then stand up and take a bow and say “That’s me!”
TAKE ME TO THE RANCH

Words: Based on the book, ‘ABC’s To Ranching’ by Patty Y. Raymond
Music: Eddie Cavazos

**Chorus**

Take me to the ranch, where I can be so rough and tough
Take me to the ranch, where I can see all kinds of stuff
To that place that makes me smile and want to do a happy dance
To the place I’m side to side with Dad, take me to the ranch
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