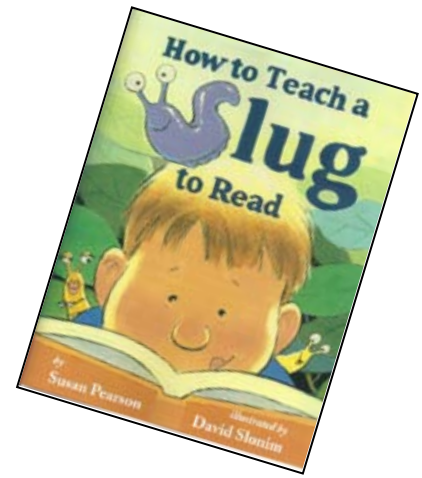


How to Teach a Slug to Read

Written by Susan Pearson
Illustrated by David Slonim
Marshall Cavendish, 2011



Can a slug really learn to read? If the 10 easy steps in this story are followed, he's sure to be successful! A young boy explains to Mama Slug how to teach Little Slug to read. He takes the reader through the process, suggesting helpful reading strategies along the way.

About the Author

Susan Pearson is the author of over thirty children's books. She is also a children's book editor. She was born in Boston, Massachusetts but moved several times throughout her life. Susan enjoys gardening, traveling and reading a variety of genres. She gets lots of her ideas from her backyard where there are lots of slugs and bugs.

About the Illustrator

David Slonim earned his degree in illustration from Rhode Island School of Design. For ten years he created commercial images for clients like IBM, UPS and T.G.I. Friday's. His oil paintings are inspired by masters such as Cezanne and Degas. His books have been translated into five languages. When he's not working on writing or illustrating his own books, he teaches painting workshops and creative writing classes.

Accompanying Activities

1. English Language Arts: Beginning Reading Strategies

Activity 1: Strategies for Beginner Readers

Ask students to generate a list of steps they would use if they were going to teach a slug to read: start at the beginning of the book, read from left to right, sound out words, look at the pictures, etc. Brainstorm ideas on page 1 of the accompanying interactive whiteboard activity. Conduct a book walk. Ask students to make predictions about the story. Throughout the story, pause at each step and discuss the importance of that strategy. After reading the story, review the various strategies and discuss how they can be applied.

Teach a Slug to Read Prezi

<http://prezi.com/wdsjlubxqh6e/how-to-teach-a-slug-to-read/>

Activity 2: Choosing Good Fit Books

After reading the book, review reading strategies from the story. Tell students they are going to learn more about choosing and selecting books using the "I PICK" method. This is called choosing "Good Fit Books". Share the "I PICK" rule for choosing good fit books. (See page 2 of the accompanying activity for interactive whiteboard.) Focus the

discussion on step 4 of “I PICK”, comprehension. Demonstrate how to use the five finger rule to check for comprehension. Give each student a copy of the bookmark from the accompanying file.

- **Reading/Beginning Reading/Strategies** - The students comprehend a variety of texts drawing on useful strategies as needed.
 - Predict what might happen next in text based on the cover, title, and illustrations.
TEKS: *ELAR 110.11 (b) 4 A*
 - Ask and respond to questions about texts read aloud.
TEKS: *ELAR 110.11 (b) 4 B*
 - Establish purpose for reading selected texts and monitor comprehension, making corrections and adjustments when that understanding breaks down (e.g., identifying clues, using background knowledge, generating questions, re-reading a portion aloud).
TEKS: *ELAR 110.12 (b) 4 C*
 - Establish purpose for reading selected texts and monitor comprehension, making corrections and adjustments when that understanding breaks down (e.g., identifying clues, using background knowledge, generating questions, re-reading a portion aloud).
TEKS: *ELAR 110.13 (b) 3 C*

Companion Books

Other Books by Susan Pearson

Grimericks. Marshall Cavendish, 2005.

Slugs in Love. Marshall Cavendish, 2006.

Squeal and Squawk: Barnyard Talk. Marshall Cavendish, 2004.

Who Swallowed Harold? And Other Poems About Pets. Marshall Cavendish, 2006.

Choosing a “Just Right” Book

Bertram, Debbie. *The Best Books to Read*. Dragonfly Books, 2008.

Bottner, Barbara. *Miss Brooks Loves Books (And I Don't)*. Alfred A. Knopf, 2010.

Hopkins, Jackie Mims. *Goldie Socks and the Three Libearians*. Greenwillow Books, 2007.

Miller, Pat. *We're Going on a Book Hunt*. Westcott, 2008.

Parr, Todd. *Reading Makes You Feel Good*. Little Brown, 2005.

Slugs

Edwards, Pamela Duncan. *Some Smug Slug*. Pamela Duncan Edwards, 1996.

Greenburg, David T. *Bugs!* David T. Greenburg, 1997.

Internet Resources

Susan Pearson's Website

<http://www.susanpearson.net>

Brain Pop Jr.® (subscription required)

Choosing a Just Right Book

<http://www.brainpopjr.com/readingandwriting/readingskills/choosingabook/grownups.weml>

David Slonim's Website

<http://www.davidslonim.com/>

I PICK Rap

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vfecFjBHfc8>

Reading Rockets: teaching kids to read and helping those who struggle

<http://www.readingrockets.org/article/28279/>