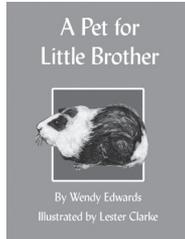


A PET FOR LITTLE BROTHER

By – Wendy Edwards
 Illustrated by – Lester Clarke
 Genre – Narrative
 Set 13 – 212 words

Building Anticipation – Setting the Context

Ask the children: *If you could have any pet, what would it be? Tell your reading partner about a pet you have or would like to have.*



Introduction

Recall the character Little Brother from the earlier book *It Was Missy*, set 7. Explain: *This is a story about Little Brother and his Grandma. He wants a pet, but he and Grandma can't agree on what the pet should be.* Invite students to predict what pet Little Brother might get and give the reasons for their prediction.

Look at the first page together. Review the use of a question mark and read the question on the page.

Turn to the picture of a guinea pig. Ask if the students know what it is. Ask students to revisit their predictions about what kind of pet Little Brother will get. Talk about whether the students think a guinea pig would make a good pet. Read to find out which pet Little Brother takes home.

Discussion – Book Talk

Here are some suggested three level questions that can be used during discussion. Guide students as they make up their own questions at each level.

Right there questions:

- Find the sentence that tells why Grandma didn't want Little Brother to get a dog.
- Find the sentence that tells why Grandma wanted a bird.

Think and search questions:

- Why did Grandma say that Little Brother was lucky?
- Why did Grandma decide to get Little Brother a guinea pig after all?

On your own questions:

- Do you think a guinea pig would be a good pet? Why or why not?
- How do you think Little Brother persuaded Grandma to let him have a guinea pig?

Creative Response – Independent Practice

Children can:

- conduct a survey on favorite pets. Display the results in graph form .
- write a recount about getting a pet. Use the four square story organizer on the reproducible master to plan their story.
- write an explanation of how to look after a pet.
- invite a veterinarian to the class to talk about taking care of pets.

Read Aloud Connections

ASPCA Pet Care Guides: Guinea Pigs (non-fiction) by Mark Evans, DK 1992.

My Pet Hamster by Lyn Thomas, Kids Can Press, 2002.

One Guinea Pig is Not Enough by Kate Duke, Puffin, 2001.

Taking Care of Your Guinea Pig by Helen Piers, Barrons, 1993.

The Perfect Pet by Carol Chataway, Kids Can Press, 2002.

Learning about Language – Focused Teaching

High Frequency Words	want, would, thought, clean	Clap, chant and cheer the words. Find them on the word wall and in books.
Word Families and Letter Clusters	<i>ought</i> family - thought, bought, brought, sought	Look for words with silent <i>gh</i> in the middle.
Structural Features of Words	Discuss the meaning of <i>too</i> and how to distinguish it from <i>to</i> .	Write sentences with both words.
Text Features	Questions and question marks	Identify questions in the story. Talk about the question mark. Make a T chart with questions and answers.

Story Organizer

What Little Brother wants.

What Grandma wants.

Why Grandma changed her mind.

What Little Brother got.