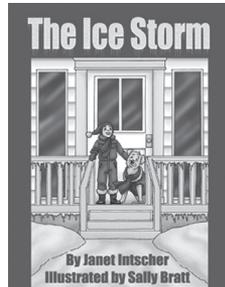


THE ICE STORM

By - Janet Intscher
Illustrated by - Sally Bratt
Genre - Recount
Set 17 - 358 Words

Building Anticipation - Setting the Context

Brainstorm for weather events. If students do not mention it add *ice storm*. Talk about the effect that weather has. Discuss how weather is beneficial and how it is harmful. Watch the weather channel on television. Listen to the radio and look in the newspapers for weather information. Go to the following website, <http://www.cnn.com/WEATHER/>



Introduction

Ask students if they have ever experienced a power outage. Talk about how that affects their daily life. Make a list of all the things that depend on electricity. Tell students they are going to read a book called *The Ice Storm*. Recall Nick and Bowser from earlier Porcupine books and ask them to read to find out what Nick, his dog Bowser and the rest of his family did during an ice storm.

Discussion – Book Talk

Right there questions:

- How long did the freezing rain fall?
- How did the family keep the house warm?
- Where did Nick's Mom and Granny go?
- Why didn't Dad and Nick go to the hotel?

Think and search questions:

- Why did Mom tell Nick to be careful when he went outside?
- What made Nick notice that the branches were falling?
- Why do you think Mom and Granny went to the hotel?
- How do you know Granny was upset when the lights went out?

On your own questions:

- Would you go to a hotel or stay in the house? Why?
- What were two things that Bowser did that makes him an unusual dog?
- Describe how you would feel in a sleeping bag close to the woodstove?
- Why do you think Nick referred to this as an adventure?
- How can a family be prepared for an emergency such as this?

Creative Response – Independent Practice

Art

Have students use white chalk to draw trees on black construction paper. Then ask them to outline the upper part of the branches with a glue stick. Students then dust silver glitter over the drawings so the glitter sticks to the glue. Write descriptive captions for the pictures. Hang the pictures in an *Ice Gallery*.

Emergency Kit

Ask students to list five items for an emergency kit and beside each item, write why they chose to include it. Then have students share the contents of their kits. Then have the group create one emergency kit with only five items. Encourage the students to debate which items should be included. Each student can use the reproducible master to create their own emergency kit.

Oral Presentation

Ask students to watch the weather on television and make a list of words the weather person uses. Make lists of weather words for reference. Using the board or mural paper, students create a weather map based on the long term forecast and practice giving the weather forecast. Students can present the weather to other classes.

Weather Websites - Information for Teachers

- <http://www.weather.com/encyclopedia/winter/precip.html>
- <http://www.icomm.ca/hazards/meteorological/glaze.html>
- <http://www.canoe.ca/CNEWSIceStorm/home.html>

Weather Website – Information for Students

- http://www.weatherclassroom.com/home_students.php

Read Aloud and Poetry Connections

- Frog and Toad All Year* by Arnold Lobel, Harper Collins, 1976.
- Geraldine's Big Snow* by Holly Keller, Greenwillow, 1988.
- Icicle*, poem in *Winter Eyes* by Douglas Florian, Greenwillow Books, 1999.
- Snow* by John Bianchi and Frank Edwards, Bungalo Books, 1992.
- The Long Winter* by Laura Ingalls Wilder, Harper and Row inc., 1971.
- The Boy who Stuck out His Tongue* by Edith Tarbescue, Barefoot Books, 2000.
- The Snowy Day* by Ezra Jack Keats, Viking Children's Books, 1996.
- Winter Inside*, poem in *Winter Eyes* by Douglas Florian, Greenwillow Books, 1999.
- Winter Poems* selected by Barbara Rogasky, Scholastic Inc., 1994.

Learning about Language – Focused Teaching

- High Frequency Words - both, goes, began
- Interest Words - slippery, suddenly, power, goodness, candles, Granny, Bowser, adventure, jackets, blankets
- Word Families and Letter Clusters - *or* family: storm, form
- *an* family: can, canned, blankets, Granny, and, began, branches
- Structural Features of Words – Soft *c*: ice
- Text Features - Exclamation mark - Phrases: *in the morning, on the roads and trees, in the town, on the ice, out the window, in the woodstove, near the stove*

Ice Storm Emergency Kit

List 5 things you would put in an emergency kit in case of an ice storm.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Draw the contents of your emergency kit.

