

Reading Level: Grades K-1

Subject: Social Studies

Materials

- a book for each student
- a chalkboard or dry-erase board
- magnetic letters
- pencils, crayons, or markers
- paper
- the main idea and details activity (optional) (p. 4 of this guide)
- sticky notes (optional)

Reading Standards

- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.K.2:** With prompting and support, identify the main topic and retell key details of a text.
- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.K.5:** Identify the front, back cover, and title page of a book.
- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.K.6:** Name the author and illustrator of a text, and define the role of each in presenting the ideas or information in a text.

Targeted Reading Strategy

Identify the main idea, and with support, retell the key details of a text.

Academic vocabulary: Asia, country, mountains, plains, forests, pandas, bamboo, deserts, dumplings, Great Wall

High-frequency words: a, is, it, the, and, in, to, you

Before Reading

Build Background Knowledge

- Hold the book up, ask students if they can point to the front cover, and then have them point to the back cover. Ask the students if they can tell you what the large words on the front cover of the book are. Give time for a response. Read the title to the students. Introduce the book *Let's Explore China* by showing the students the cover, reading the title, and looking at the picture. Ask students if they know what we call the person who writes the words in a book. Read the name of the author. Explain that every book has an author and that it is very important to know who writes the words.
- Take a book walk with the students, and point out the table of contents. Explain that this is an important text feature found in nonfiction books. It tells readers where they can find important information about different topics in the book. Have students find the picture glossary and the index with you, and explain that these are also important text features that can be found in nonfiction books. Turn to those pages, and show the students how the table of contents helped you find them.
- Explain that sometimes there are tricky vocabulary words in books. Turn to page 4, and have students find the word country. Tell the children that a good rule to help them read this word is to remember that when they see the letter *c* and followed by *a*, *o*, or *u*, it will make the hard sound like in the word cat and when they see the letter *c* followed by *e* or *i*, it will make the soft sound as in the word city. It sounds more like an /s/ than a /c/. Go through the book, and have students put their finger on the academic vocabulary words as you read them. This will help them read them when it is their turn to read.

Skill Introduction

- Tell students they will be determining what the main idea of *Let's Explore China* is and identifying key details to support the main idea.

- Explain how to find the main idea with a think-aloud.

Think-aloud: *The title helps me think about what the book will be mostly about. This book is about exploring China. I know that the word explore means "to visit or look around or learn about something," so the book must be about learning about China. The information we learn about China will be the details. Nonfiction books help give us clues about key details by breaking down the book into small parts, or sections. We learned a little about this when we looked at the table of contents. Each part has a heading or title that tells what you will learn about in that part. Can anyone give some examples of what details we may learn about China?*

During Reading

Check for Understanding

- Guide students as they read by asking them to read and stop on page 12 (you may want to place a sticky note there). Fast finishers can reread until everyone is finished. Students should be reading silently or quietly to themselves so they can read at their own pace.
- Model how to identify supporting details with a think-aloud.

Think-aloud: *I see that the heading of this section is called "A Visit to China." One supporting detail about this section is on page 8. Read the page with the students out loud. Explain that this page tells about different features of China, which would be important to know if you were to visit. People plan vacations around things they want to see and places they want to go.*

- Have students finish reading the rest of the book. Remind them to use what they already know to help understand what they read. Have students place a sticky note next to any word they cannot read or understand. This can be discussed after the book is read.

After Reading

Response to Text

- Ask students if they discovered any new information about China. Let students discuss this with a partner and monitor comprehension based on their answers. Ask them to identify evidence from the text to support their answer. They can do this by locating it in the book and rereading that part or by placing a sticky note there.

Think-aloud: *Since we have been discussing the main idea and supporting details, I see there are important features in a nonfiction book that help me understand how to find supporting details. For example, the table of contents helps me find supporting details that connect with the main idea of the book. Can anyone tell me another way to find supporting details in a nonfiction book? Accept all reasonable answers.*

- Guide students if they need additional examples or help.

Word Work

- Have students practice high-frequency words from the book (listed above). Using magnetic letters and a whiteboard or other magnetic board, have them say-spell-say each high-frequency word. Students could also write the word in rainbow colors with crayons or markers.

Extension Activity

- Have students complete the main idea and details chart activity (p. 4 of this guide)

Critical Thinking with Bumba Books

Foster higher-order thinking skills by embedding Bumba Books' critical thinking questions into your reading instruction. Use them to spark discussion, and encourage your emergent readers to be actively engaged in informational text!



Name: _____

Let's Explore China Activity

Use the book *Let's Explore China* to fill in the chart.

Main Idea		
Detail 1	Detail 2	Detail 3

