



### ***Balloon Blessing* Lesson Plan**

**Grade:**     K-1    

**Subject:** Shared Reading

**Target:** Setting

**Objectives:**

Students will:

- Listen to a fluent reading of the story.
- Choral read as a class.
- Answer comprehension questions.
- Define unfamiliar vocabulary.
- Use hand motions to visualize vocabulary words.
- Illustrate their favorite setting of the book.
- Chant word spellings as a class.
- Write each vocabulary word.
- Copy or create simple sentences.

**Key Vocabulary:**

-soar, scribe, sprint, giddy

**Materials:**

- Balloon Blessing* by Jill Jana Marie
- writing paper
- pencils
- crayons, markers, or colored pencils
- drawing paper

**Day 1: Motivation and Modeled Fluency**

- Ask students, "Have you ever let go of a balloon and watched it float away?"
- Allow several students to respond.
- Read entire book to class (Do not encourage participation yet).
- Ask several questions such as: "What different people are in the story? Can you remember any of their names? Do any of them remind you of people you know?"

### **Day 2: Define unfamiliar vocabulary**

- Read story to class without participation.
- Read a second time, and encourage students to join in.
- Discuss each of the four vocabulary words (soar, sprint, scribe, giddy).

### **Suggested Activity:**

Demonstrate motion for each new word while students mimic them. For example, for the word, "soar", hold out your arms like you're flying. Pretend you're writing with a pencil for "scribe". Move your hands back and forth like you're running for "sprint". Raise both arms in the air like you're excited and cheering or laughing for "giddy". After practicing the words and motions, call out words while students demonstrate the motion.

### **Day 3: Describing the setting**

- Read book, and encourage students to join in.
- Discuss the setting of the book (where and when it takes place).
- Ask students, "Does the entire story take place in the same setting? What are the different places in the book?"

### **Suggested Activity**

Students will pick one of the settings in *Balloon Blessing* (Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Delaware, New York City) to illustrate.

### **Day 4: Review and spelling practice**

- Read book, and encourage students to join in.
- Review vocabulary and motions
- Write each vocabulary word on the board while students copy.
- After writing each word, students stand and chant, stomp, or clap as they spell each word in unison. (Teacher may choose to have students spell words using chalk, white boards, shaving cream, macaroni noodles, or beans.)

### **Day 5: Writing Extension**

- Read book, and encourage students to join in.
- Review vocabulary and motions.

-Students observe while teacher describes the setting of the story on the board. (For example, It is raining in Delaware. There are hills in Kentucky. The sun shines in Florida. There are waves at the beach.)

-Lower level students can copy, while higher level students can create their own sentences.