



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

**Grade:** 2-3

**Subject:** Shared Reading

**Target:** Plot and Sequence

### **Objectives:**

Students will:

- Listen to a fluent reading of the story.
- Choral read as a class.
- Define unfamiliar vocabulary.
- Match synonymous vocabulary.
- Retell the plot of *Balloon Blessing*.
- Arrange the events of the book in chronological order.

### **Key Vocabulary:**

-vast, absurd, ascend, elderly, ecstatic

### **Materials:**

- Balloon Blessing* by Jill Jana Marie
- sentence strips (attached)
- scissors
- glue
- poster board or construction paper
- synonym cards (attached)
- tape or magnets

### **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 entire book to class
- Read a second time, and encourage students to join in.
- Discuss each of the four vocabulary words (vast, ascend, absurd, elderly, ecstatic).
- Say, "We are going to talk about words that have similar meanings as our vocabulary words. These words are called synonyms."

#### **Suggested Activity:**

- Write the four vocabulary words on the board, and pass out magnetic synonym cards to students. (Teacher may choose to use tape instead.)
- Students place cards under its synonymous vocabulary word one at a time.

### **Day 3: Retelling Plot**

- Read story, and encourage students to join in.
- Explain to students that plot is what happens or the events of the story.
- Ask students, "What happened first? What happened next...? How does the story end?"
- Model how to retell or summarize the story in your own words, and write it on board.
- Ask for volunteers to retell or summarize *Balloon Blessing* in their own words.

### **Day 4: Sequencing Activity**

- Read story, and encourage students to join in.
- Explain that plot is the events of the story in the order that they happened.

#### **Suggested Activity:**

- Print, cut, and mix sentence strips.
- Place students in groups of 3 or 4.
- Students glue sentence strips on poster board or construction paper in chronological order.
- Students can share with the class.

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

- Read story, and encourage students to join in.
- Allow volunteers to lead the class in a shared reading of *Balloon Blessing*.
- Students write and retell the events of the story in their own words.
- Pick several volunteers to share.

