

Text Complexity Analysis Template

Text complexity analysis			
Created by:	Amanda Lynch	Event/Date:	Teach Fest Connecticut: Summer Academy, July '14
Text and Author	From Seed to Pumpkin By: Wendy Pfeffer illustrated by: James Graham Hale	Where to Access Text	Check out from your school or local library or purchase on Amazon: http://www.amazon.com/From-Pumpkin-Lets-Read-Find-Out-Science/dp/0064451909 Access digitally http://www.watchknowlearn.org/Video.aspx?VideoID=34364&CategoryID=9483
Text Description			
<p><i>From Seed to Pumpkin</i> takes students through the process of how a tiny seed can turn into a huge pumpkin. Through the drawings and words students can learn how to plant, grow, and care for a pumpkin seed. Students are exposed to new vocabulary while learning the life cycle of a pumpkin.</p>			
Quantitative			
Lexile and Grade Level	Grade Level: K-read aloud Lexile: 640	Text Length	31 pages with 1-3 sentences per page with illustrations.
Qualitative			
Meaning/Central Ideas		Text Structure/Organization	
The text describes three main ideas how a plant needs water, sun, soil and air to grow. A pumpkin takes a long time to grow. The life cycle of a pumpkin.		The text structure is an informational text. The text is in a sequential order explaining simple science concepts. The text has drawn pictures and no specific informational text features, such as glossary, heading, or diagrams.	
Prior Knowledge Demands		Language Features	
Students need to know how to actively listen to a read aloud. Students may have some knowledge of the life cycle of plants in general. Students should understand the changes in seasons. Students should have heard of or seen a pumpkin.		There is some content specific vocabulary within this text. The sentences are simple and clear for the students to understand. Transition phrases showing the passing of time is used and may require specific teaching.	
Potential Reader/Task Challenges			
Students may need help understanding that the text is informational because of the lack of headings, table of contents, and diagrams. Students may need support sequencing and recalling the life cycle of a pumpkin. Students may struggle to understand how the sun, air, and water are able to help the plant grow.			
Big Takeaway			
<p><i>From Seed to Pumpkin</i>, author Wendy Pfeffer teaches students to understand the specific life cycle of a pumpkin. Students will understand the many changes a pumpkin and what is needed in order for a seed to turn into a pumpkin.</p>			

Vocabulary Analysis Template

	Words that demand less teaching time (i.e. the definition is singular and concrete)	Words that demand more teaching time (i.e. words with multiple meanings and/or that are part of a word family)
Words that can be determined in context	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moist (tier 2) • Sprout (tier 3) • Prickly (tier 3) • Jagged (tier 2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seedling (tier 3) • Tubes (tier 2) • Ripen (tier 2)
Words that cannot be determined in context	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy (tier 2) • Tends (tier 2) • Weeds (tier 3) • Sprawl (tier 3) • Wither (tier 3) 	