

Text Complexity Analysis Template

Text complexity analysis			
Created by:	Julie DeVito	Event/Date:	TeachFest July 29, 2014 Hartford, CT
Text and Author	The Seasons by Ian Smith	Where to Access Text	QEB Publishing Amazon.com
Text Description			
This is a non-fiction text that engages children’s interest and provides lots of details about the four seasons through the use of colorful photographs and rich vocabulary.			
Quantitative			
Lexile and Grade Level	Kindergarten Read Aloud	Text Length	23 pages
Qualitative			
Meaning/Central Ideas		Text Structure/Organization	
The meaning of this text is explicitly stated. The author describes each of the four seasons and provides information about the changes that take place during each season. Students will be able to use their senses to compare and contrast the sights and sounds of winter, spring, summer, and fall.		This text is chronologically organized by season. The author writes four pages on each season, including information about the changes in weather, clothing, outdoor activities, and animal behaviors that take place during each. Colorful photographs are used to enhance the reader’s understanding of each season.	
Prior Knowledge Demands		Language Features	
Students should be familiar with the format of a non-fiction text and have some background knowledge about living in an area that experiences the four seasons. Some discipline-specific knowledge of the four seasons is required.		This text mainly includes simple sentences that are straightforward and easy to understand. There is some unfamiliar vocabulary used.	
Potential Reader/Task Challenges			
Children that lack background knowledge and do not live in areas that experience each of the four seasons may have difficulty understanding the concept that such drastic changes in the weather take place each year. Students may have difficulty recalling the sequential order of the four seasons and deciphering between spring and summer.			
Big Takeaway			
The big takeaway is that students learn that there are major changes that take place in the weather and environment four times a year.			

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	<p>Seasons (Tier 2) Winter (Tier 2) Summer (Tier 2) Daffodils (Tier 2) Golden (Tier 2) Foggy (Tier 2) Climate (Tier 2)</p>	<p>Spring (Tier 2) Fall (Tier 2) Harvest (Tier 2)</p>
Words that cannot be determined in context	<p>Nod (Tier 2) Ripe (Tier 2)</p>	