CRICKET THE DOG  LEVEL J

INTRODUCE THE BOOK

Before students begin to read, prepare them for a successful first reading of the story. Familiarize them with the plot, important concepts, new words, and language structures in the book. Begin by providing a brief synopsis of the book.

SYNOPSIS OF THE STORY

This is a true story about a little puppy named Cricket. Cricket is an Australian Shepherd. In this book, we will read about Cricket and her family.

BEFORE STUDENTS BEGIN TO READ YOU MIGHT SAY:

1 “Look at the Table of Contents. What do you think you might learn about Cricket in this book?”

2 “Look quickly at all the pictures and think about what might happen in this book.”

3 “Look at pages 4-5. What did you notice about Cricket’s eyes when she was born?”

4 “On page 8, Cricket’s mother can do many things.”

5 “On page 28, let’s look at the Glossary. You will find new words and what they mean there.”

READ THE TEXT

After you look through the book together, have the students begin to read. Encourage the students to read the entire book in a soft reading voice. Listen to the students’ reading, and prompt for and/or praise strategic processing. See Prompting Guide J for reading behaviors to observe and support.

DISCUSS AND REVISIT THE TEXT

Start a conversation about the story. Encourage students to make connections to their own experiences and/or other stories they have read. Engage the conversation by asking students to make predictions, inferences, and connections to personal experiences or other stories. Stay away from questions that can be answered with “yes” or “no.”

YOU MIGHT ASK:

• “What are some things you learned about puppies that you did not know before?”
• “What are some things Cricket gets from her mother to live?”