GORILLAS LEVEL L

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 book is about gorillas. Gorillas are large and scary looking, but they are actually shy and gentle.

BEFORE STUDENTS BEGIN TO READ YOU MIGHT SAY:

1 “Look at the Table of Contents. What do you think you might learn about gorillas in this book?”
2 “Look quickly at all the pictures and see what you might learn about gorillas.”
3 “On page 4, it says, Gorillas are the largest primates.”
4 “Look on pages 6-7. Silverbacks are the leaders of a group called a troop.”
5 “On pages 10-11, it talks about a gorilla’s habitat and food.”
6 “Let’s look at the Glossary on page 24. 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 L 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 things about gorillas do you like the most?”
• “What did you learn about gorillas that you didn’t know before?”