



# Read Aloud: *Dandelion*

Standard Connection:  
 ELA.RL.PK.4.1-7,9-10  
 ELA.SL.PK.4.1-4,6  
 ELA.L.PK.4.1,1c,4,6

### Enduring Understanding(s):

- A friend is someone we care for and want to spend time with.
- Friends like to do things together and enjoy each other's company.
- Friends may have conflicts that can cause complex feelings. Usually, friends work together to resolve these problems; a possible solution may be to spend time apart.

### Essential Question(s):

- How do you deal with and express complex feelings in productive and creative ways?
- How do you maintain your sense of self while compromising and collaborating when necessary?

Materials	Vocabulary	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Dandelion</i></li> <li>• vocabulary word picture cards</li> </ul>	<p><b>blushing:</b> when your face turns pink or red</p> <p><b>cane:</b> a stick that helps people walk</p> <p><b>cloudburst:</b> a short heavy rain</p> <p><b>fancy:</b> not plain</p> <p><b>gust:</b> a sudden strong wind</p> <p><b>magnificent:</b> very fancy</p> <p><b>mane:</b> hair on the neck of a lion or horse</p> <p><b>dapper:</b> very stylish</p>	<p><b>pace:</b> walk back and forth</p> <p><b>protect:</b> keep safe</p> <p><b>shampoo:</b> a liquid soap used for washing hair</p> <p><b>barbershop:</b> a store where people get their hair cut</p> <p><b>bouquet:</b> a bunch of picked flowers</p> <p><b>hostess:</b> a woman who invites guests to a party</p> <p><b>flustered:</b> upset or nervous</p> <p><b>elegant:</b> very fancy</p>
Books		
		

First Read	
Preparation: <i>Set up materials</i>	
<p><b>Children will:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• listen to a story read aloud</li> <li>• demonstrate increasing levels of sustained and focused engagement</li> <li>• show a steady increase in the number of words in listening vocabulary</li> <li>• develop understanding of main events</li> </ul>	
<p>“The title of this book is <i>Dandelion</i>. Don Freeman is the author and the illustrator. He wrote the words and created the pictures.”</p>	<p><b>Show front cover.</b></p>
<p>“<b>Fancy</b> means not plain. The ink was gold, it was very special.”</p>	<p><b>p. 3</b></p>

“Dandelion’s <b>mane</b> - the hair on his head and neck - looks very long and messy.”	p. 5
“A <b>barbershop</b> is a store where people get their haircut.”	p. 6
“Lou Kangaroo is a <b>barber</b> - the person who cuts hair at a <b>barbershop</b> .”	p. 7
“Lou Kangaroo used a lot of <b>shampoo</b> to wash Dandelion’s <b>mane</b> . Dandelion is getting a <b>manicure</b> to clean and trim his claws.”	pp. 8-9
“Dandelion looked <b>magnificent</b> - he looked very fancy!”	p. 14
“Dandelion wanted to wear some <b>elegant</b> - very fancy - clothes to Jennifer Giraffe’s party. He also bought a <b>cane</b> - a stick that helps people walk. He looks <b>dapper</b> - very stylish.”	pp. 15-18
“Jennifer Giraffe was the <b>hostess</b> - she was having the party. Why didn’t Jennifer Giraffe recognize Dandelion?”	pp. 19-24 Children respond.
Dandelion <b>paced</b> - walked back and forth - on the sidewalk.”	p.28
“This <b>gust</b> - strong wind - was like the wind that blew Peter’s invitation for Amy out of his hand.”	p. 29
“How does Dandelion feel after his cap and <b>bouquet</b> blew away, and his friend Jennifer Giraffe wouldn’t let him into her party? How do you know?”	pp. 29-30 Children respond.
“ <b>Protect</b> means to keep something or someone safe.”	p. 36
“Jennifer Giraffe was embarrassed that she hadn’t recognized Dandelion the first time. She was flustered, and she <b>blushed</b> - her face turned pink.”	p. 43
<p><b>Discussion Question(s):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why didn’t Jennifer Giraffe recognize Dandelion when he came to her party?</li> <li>• How is the invitation that Peter sent to Amy in <i>A Letter to Amy</i> similar to or different from the invitation Jennifer Giraffe sent to Dandelion?</li> </ul>	

## Second Read

**Children will:**

- recall some main events when asked
- link characters’ basic emotions to their actions
- use their own experiences to understand the characters’ feelings and motivations
- express the main idea of a story or other text in a way that shows increasing understanding

“We read this story before, so you know the title is... <i>Dandelion</i> .”	<b>Pause before you read the title so that children can chime in. Underline the title with your finger as you read it.</b>
“What was Dandelion thinking about when he looked out the window?”	<b>p. 2 Children respond.</b>
“Dandelion found something exciting in his mailbox. What was it?”	<b>p. 3 Children respond.</b>
“What did the letter say? Who was it from?”	<b>p. 4 Children respond.</b>
“What did Dandelion do first, second, and third to get ready for Jennifer Giraffe’s party?”	<b>pp. 7-19 Children respond.</b>
“What did Dandelion bring as a gift for Jennifer Giraffe, the <b>hostess</b> of the party?”	<b>p. 20 Children respond.</b>
“What happened when Dandelion rang the doorbell?”	<b>p. 23 Children respond.</b>
“Why didn’t Jennifer Giraffe recognize Dandelion?”	<b>pp. 24-27 Children respond.</b>
“What happened to Dandelion’s <b>fancy haircut</b> and his clothes?”	<b>pp. 29-33 Children respond.</b>
“Why did Jennifer Giraffe recognize Dandelion when he knocked on her door a second time?”	<b>p. 39 Children respond.</b>

**Discussion Question(s):**

- What did Jennifer Giraffe’s invitation mean when it said, “Come as you are?”
- Why did Dandelion feel that he needed to make himself look fancy for Jennifer Giraffe’s party?

## Third Read

### Children will:

- chime in and read the story with the teacher
- practice saying and using story-related vocabulary words
- recall main events and characters in the story

As you read, slow down in some places to invite children to chime in. If children have difficulty recalling, scaffold by saying the first sound of a word or the first word in a phrase.

### Discussion Question(s):

- How is the gathering of friends in *The Little Red Hen (Makes a Pizza)* the same as or different from the gathering of friends at Jennifer Giraffe's house?
- Jennifer Giraffe didn't recognize Dandelion. Why didn't she have trouble recognizing her other guests?

## Fourth Read

### Children will:

- act out one or more scenes from the story
- explore character motivations and emotions
- recall main events from the story

With children, choose one scene to act out. Assign roles to children or use a structure to ask for volunteers. As you read the corresponding pages from the story, children act out the scene and recite any dialogue.

### Discussion Question(s):

- Dandelion was disappointed that Jennifer Giraffe did not recognize him. How was Dandelion's disappointment similar to or different from Peter's disappointment in *A Letter to Amy*?
- What could Dandelion have done to convince Jennifer Giraffe that he was really Dandelion?