

# Introducing Nonfiction

This activity is designed to help young students demonstrate acquisition of information from nonfiction text. This helps them become acquainted with the concepts of setting a purpose for reading and reading for information, skills they will need to succeed in the future.

<b>Overview:</b>	Students will draw pictures after reading books to demonstrate the acquisition of information from nonfiction text.
<b>Standards addressed:</b>	<p><b>Common Core Standards</b></p> <p><b>Reading Standard for Informational Text K.1</b> With prompting and support, ask and answer questions about key details in a text.</p> <p><b>Reading Standards for Informational Text K.2</b> With prompting and support, identify the main topic and retell key details of a text.</p> <p><b>Speaking and Listening Standard K.5</b> Add drawings or other visual displays to descriptions as desired to provide additional detail.</p> <p><b>Reading Standard for Informational Text 1.1</b> Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.</p> <p><b>Reading Standard for Informational Text 1.6</b> Distinguish between information provided by pictures or other illustrations and information provided by the words in a text.</p> <p><b>Speaking and Listening Standard 1.2</b> Ask and answer questions about key details in a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media.</p>
<b>Activity works best with:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual student</li> <li>• Small groups</li> <li>• Whole group</li> </ul>
<b>Preparation time:</b>	Low

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<b>Materials:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Computer with Internet access</li> <li>• LCD projector</li> <li>• Whiteboard and marker</li> <li>• White paper</li> <li>• Crayons/Colored pencils</li> </ul>
<b>Preparation:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open a web browser and log in to the <b>We Give Books</b> website at <a href="http://www.wegivebooks.org">www.wegivebooks.org</a>.</li> <li>• Log in to your account and select a campaign to support.</li> <li>• Choose a nonfiction book to read. The lesson becomes even stronger if you pick a topic that you are studying in Science or Social Studies. Click the orange “Read Online” button to open it.</li> <li>• Prepare a K-W-L chart on the white board to document students’ questions and responses. (A K-W-L chart is composed of three sections/columns where, during discussions, you log student responses to: What do you know? What do you want to know? What did you learn?)</li> </ul>

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### Introduction:

- Display the cover of the nonfiction book you have chosen on the screen.
- Tell students that they are going to start reading some new books in a category called nonfiction. “Older students and grown-ups use nonfiction books to find information about a topic, and so will you. Nonfiction books will help you a lot when you need to find important information.”
- Nonfiction:
  - Looks different than fiction.
  - Sounds different than fiction.
  - Teaches us things.
  - Often has photos as well as drawings.
  - Might ask questions and then answer them.
  - Contains only facts, rather than a story created in the writer’s imagination.
- And you can start reading in the middle of some nonfiction books.
- Explain to students, “Just like we get our minds ready to read fiction, we have to do the same when we are going to read nonfiction. Before we read nonfiction books, we should get our minds ready by asking ourselves: “What do I already know about the subject? What am I hoping to find out about the subject?”

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<p><b>Activity:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduce the book that you are going to read aloud. “So, let’s get our minds ready to learn about (topic). What do you know about (topic)? What is something that you are hoping to learn about (topic)?” Chart students’ responses on the K-W-L chart.</li> <li>• Read the book aloud to students, being sure to point out all the different text, pictures and captions where information is found.</li> <li>• “What did you learn about (topic)?” Chart responses on the K-W-L chart. Be sure to engage students about what information they found in the text and what information they found in the pictures.</li> <li>• Ask students if they noticed anything different about this book.</li> <li>• Have students draw a picture of one fact that they learned from the text.</li> <li>• When they are finished, ask students to share their drawing with a partner and explain what they learned.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Tips for expansion:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have students find two books that relate to each other through topic (e.g., bears, dogs, etc.): one fiction, the other nonfiction. Individually or in pairs, have students write/draw/explain one thing they learned about their topic from the fiction book, and one new thing they learned from the nonfiction book. Ask them which book provided more information.</li> <li>• Have students create a <a href="#">Block Print</a> or <a href="#">Sand Painting</a> of one of the new facts they learned. You can find instructions for these projects online in the Craft Projects section, among many other resources, available to you to download for free on the <b>We Give Books</b> website at <a href="http://www.wegivebooks.org/resources">www.wegivebooks.org/resources</a>.</li> </ul>