

There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed Some Leaves!

by Lucille Colandro

A charming addition to a beloved book series, this witty story will delight readers with repetitive, rhyming text and humorous illustrations.



R.E.D. Zone

Read

Before:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow that with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, **Would you eat leaves? Why or why not?** Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an "I wonder" statement based on the cover illustration.

- I wonder why that old lady is eating leaves?

During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions, and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end. Introduce the concepts of comparison, perspective and persuasion to help the children relate to their meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- What did the old lady swallow first?
- Why did the old lady swallow a shirt?
- What kinds of animals were around when the old lady swallowed the pumpkin?
- What were some other things that the old lady swallowed?
- What did the old lady do when she swallowed the pants?
- What happened when the old lady swallowed the hay?
- What happened to all of the swallowed things once the old lady sneezed?

Do

She swallowed the pants to cover the pole, she swallowed to pole to..... fluency makes perfect!

Read the story again, asking the children to read aloud with you. Re-read the story for a third time and have one group read from the left side and another group read from the right side. (You will need to read along to help with the words.) For the fourth reading, have the children use things from around the classroom to act out the story. These activities can be done throughout the week, re-reading the story every day.

Additional activity: Create your own rhyme by changing what the old lady has swallowed. For example: There was an old lady who swallowed a boat. Have the children come up with things she could swallow and find rhyming words to match.

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