

FOR VISUAL READERS
TOON BOOKS®

The Big Wet Balloon

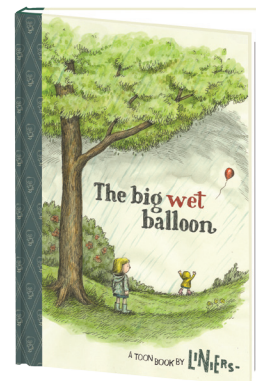
by Liniers

Hardcover ISBN: 978-1-9351-7932-0

Guided Reading Level = J

Lexile Level = GN 190

by Alexa Rosselli



ELA COMMON CORE STANDARDS

KEY IDEAS AND DETAILS	
What is Matilda trying to teach Clemmie? What things does Matilda do to teach Clemmie that rain is fun?	RL.1.1, RL.2.1
What happens to the red balloon? What is the message of this story?	RL.1.2, RL.2.2
Why does Matilda release the balloon? Why does this make Clemmie upset? What things does Matilda do that show she is Clemmie's older sister?	RL.1.3, RL.2.3

INTEGRATION OF KNOWLEDGE AND IDEAS	
Look for the teddy bear Sanchez. When do you spot him in the story? Where does he go? What do the girls do with him? In the middle of page 9, Matilda tells Clemmie "Don't worry!" Explain how the three panels above show us Clemmie is worried.	RL.1.7, RL.2.7
On page 24, Matilda says they have to give something COLORFUL to the rainbow. Why do they have to give something colorful? Look at the illustration of that panel. On page 8, why does Matilda say there breakfast is better? How can it be better if it is the same?	RL.1.8, RL.2.8
On page 23, the girls do a number of activities together. Identify differences in how Matilda and Clemmie do each thing. On pages 12 and 13, Matilda and Clemmie step out into the rain for the first time. How does each girl react? How are their reactions different?	RL.1.9, RL.2.9

CRAFT AND STRUCTURE	
Starting on page 6, how do we know Saturday is important? How does Matilda want Clemmie to feel about the weekend? On pages 9 and 10, Clemmie does not know at first what rubber boots are? How can we tell she is confused? Why does she grab the balloon instead of boots, and the duckie instead of rubber boots?	RL.1.4, RL.2.4
On page 22, Matilda tells Clemmie that when clouds crash together, rain EXPLODES from them? Is this true? Why does she explain it that way? Look at the bottom two panels on that page to judge Matilda's explanation. How much time passes in this story? Look at the beginning and the end. What happens between pages 7 and 8? Between pages 11 and 12? Between pages 28 and 29? How can we tell what happens between these pages?	RL.1.5, RL.2.5
Clemmie is a character who doesn't say very much, but we get a strong sense of how she feels. Choose a scene with Clemmie and explain how we know what she feels. Look at page 20. Explain what Clemmie is doing in each panel and why she is doing that.	RL.1.6, RL.2.6

SPEAKING AND LISTENING / WRITING	
Ask students to recount their favorite part of the story in partners. Have one student describe the story and the setting, and have the other student draw it based on their description. Then have students present these to the class.	SL.1.2, SL.1.3, SL.1.4, SL.1.5, SL.1.6 SL.2.1, SL.2.3, SL.2.4, SL.2.6
Have students write or draw about something they learned by playing with their siblings or friends. Be sure they recount what happened and what they learned. Have students share their stories with others.	W.1.2, W.2.2, W.1.3, W.2.3 W.1.5, W.2.5, W.1.8, W.2.8



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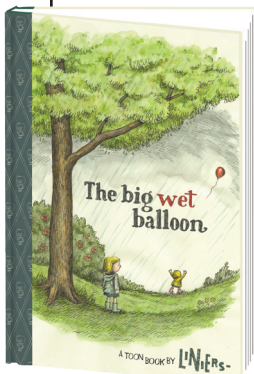
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Lesson Plan for *The Big Wet Balloon* by Liniers

BY ALEXA ROSSELLI

Overview	The Big Wet Balloon is a story about two young sisters on a rainy Saturday. As you will see when you read, the fact that this two girls are sisters is an essential part of this story. In this lesson, you will look closely at all the details of these sisters' relationship, and reflect on how that shapes the story.
Subject	English Language Arts
Grade Level	K-2nd grade
Suggested Time	45 minutes
Materials	Pens, pencils, notebook paper.
Objectives	Students will discuss Character relationships with the class and with partners, participate in an interactive read aloud, and do an independent writing exercise.
Before Reading:	<p>But if they were not sisters, they could still have a close relationship. Many books feature more than one main character, or supporting characters that help the main character out. Think aloud with your students: What are some other stories that you know with multiple characters? How do those characters relate to each other? How does their relationship impact the story?</p> <p>Often, stories revolve around character relationships. If two characters do not like each other at the beginning, they may grow to like each other by the end. Disagreements can be resolved. The circumstances that two characters encounter in a story may change or strengthen their relationship somehow.</p>
Reading:	<p>As you read aloud, draw attention to the relationship between Clemmie and Matilda. Here are some specific spots to focus on:</p> <p>Starting on page 6, how do we know Saturday is important? How does Matilda want Clemmie to feel about the weekend? On pages 12 and 13, Matilda and Clemmie step out into the rain for the first time. How does each girl react? How are their reactions different? Clemmie is a character who doesn't say very much, but we get a strong sense of how she feels. Choose a scene with Clemmie and explain how we know what she feels. Look at page 20. Explain what Clemmie is doing in each panel and why she is doing that. On page 23, the girls do a number of activities together. Identify differences in how Matilda and Clemmie do each thing.</p> <p>When you finish reading, invite students to reflect on Matilda and Clemmie's relationship. Here are some questions to ask: What things does Matilda do that show she is Clemmie's older sister? What is Matilda trying to teach Clemmie? What things does Matilda do to teach Clemmie that rain is fun? Do you have a sibling? How are Clemmie and Matilda similar to you and your sibling?</p>
Performance	<p>When you are finished reading and discussing the book <i>The Big Wet Balloon</i>, you are going to have your students do a writing exercise. Make sure they all have paper and writing materials.</p> <p>Have your students write a few sentences about character relationships. Pick your favorite pair or group of characters. Why do you like these characters? Do they work together to do something? Does their relationship ever change? What are some of the ways characters can relate to each other? How are these similar or dissimilar to relationships they have with people in their own lives?</p>

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THE BIG WET BALLOON ACTIVITY SHEET

Matilda is excited to teach Clemmie the joys of a rainy Saturday. Using clues in the pictures and your memory of the story, put the panels in the right order. Cut them out and line them up in the right order, or number the images on this page.

