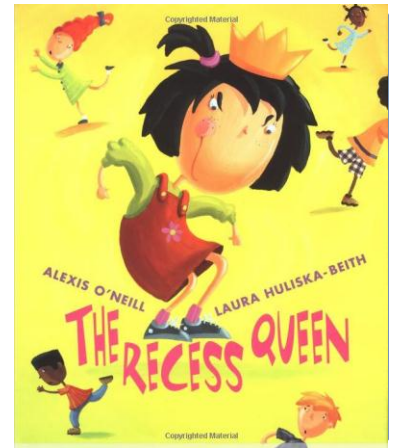


The Recess Queen

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Mean Jean is the Recess Queen and nobody is allowed to do anything on the playground until she does. Mean Jean rules the playground until one day the new girl, Katie Sue, stands up to Mean Jean and wins her over with kindness.



Possible strategies for instruction:

Comprehension:

- **Check for Understanding:**
 - When reading this story, stop frequently to check for understanding. Ask the following questions: Who did we read about? What did Mean Jean do? Why do you think Mean Jean is acting this way?"
- **Make a picture or mental image:**
 - Read a page aloud without showing the pictures and allow students to visualize what is happening. Ask students to draw what they visualized. Two parts of the story that I would use for this strategy are P. 7 and P. 11. After the students have finished show them the pictures in the book.
 - Read the story the whole way through without showing students the pictures. Brainstorm describing words for Katie Sue and Mean Jean. Have students draw pictures of Katie Sue and Mean Jean. Show students the pictures from the book.

Accuracy:

- **Recognize words at sight:**
 - The Recess Queen is full sight words. This book gives students a chance to practice what they know. Words used multiple times in the book are: the, like, and she, after, that, as, one, no. Give students sticky notes and have them mark sight words while reading the text.

Fluency:

- **Use punctuation to enhance phrasing and prosody:**
 - This text can be used to model the difference between reading a sentence that ends in a period, question mark or exclamation point. Model to students how to use intonation when reading.

Examples:

- ✓ P. 15 – "She figured wrong. Kate Sue talked back!"
- ✓ P.15 – "How DID you get to be so bossy?"
- ✓ P. 15 – "Oh! Katie Sue was one quick kid. She bolted quick as lightning."
- ✓ P. 18 – "Mean Jean thundered close behind."

- **Read the text as the author would say it, conveying the meaning or feeling:**
 - Can be done at the same time as you explain to students how to use intonation when reading. Model the difference between reading monotone and reading with meaning and feeling. Discuss the way the characters feel when they are speaking and how that would change the way they speak.
- **Reread text:**
 - Several parts of this story are repeated throughout the story.
“Say What?” Mean Jean growled. “Say who?” Mean Jean howled. “Say you! Just who do you think you’re talking to?” Mean Jean always got her way.
Students can work in their fluency as they read and reread these patterns.

Expand Vocabulary:

- **Tune in to interesting words and use new vocabulary in speaking and writing:**
 - There are many great describing words in this story, particularly action words. Words that could be introduced from this book include: thundered, amused, bolted, gaped, stared, sassy, charged.

This text can be used with nearly any strategy on the CAFE menu. The above strategies are a highlighted collection to use as a springboard for further instruction.