

# Brief Focus Lesson

## Abundant Easy Reading for Grade 6

Text: *Chasing Vermeer* by Blue Balliett

<b>CAFE Goal</b>	Accuracy
<b>CAFE Strategy</b>	Abundant Easy Reading
<b>Observe/Relate</b>  (1 – 2 min.)	Have you ever thought about what kinds of books you like to read best? Maybe you love adventure books and imagine all of the exciting things that you would like to do. Or perhaps mystery books are your favorite...you might be the kind of reader who likes to put the clues together and figure out the answer to the mystery... or possibly you like to read about famous people and their interesting lives. You should definitely do abundant easy reading with your favorite books...and, if you don't have a favorite kind of book, reading a lot will help you to find the ones that you like best.
<b>Teach and Reinforce</b>  (2 – 3 min.)	<p><b>Establish purpose</b> – Today we are learning to do abundant easy reading because it's a great way to get better and better at reading.</p> <p><b>Create urgency</b> – We are learning to do abundant easy reading because we want to become stronger readers. When we read “good fit” books we become stronger readers. We get to know different kinds of books and discover favorite authors.</p> <p><b>Explicit teacher modeling</b> – I do abundant easy reading every day. But I can't pick just any book for abundant easy reading. I need “good fit” books. To find these good fit books, I use the I PICK method (Boushey &amp; Moser, 2014). Have you used the I PICK method before? I use it all the time to find books that are a good fit for me. In fact, I used I PICK to select this book that I'm reading right now—it's one of my favorite kinds of books—a mystery book! It's called <u>Chasing Vermeer</u> by Blue Balliett.</p> <p>Let me briefly explain how I used I PICK. (Write the following on the board):</p> <p>I I look at the book  P Purpose  I Interest  C Comprehend  K Know the Words</p> <p>(<i>Point to the letter I</i>) I selected the book at the library. The author Blue Balliett used to be a teacher, and she is a very interesting writer! She creates clever puzzles in her books.</p>

	<p>(Point to the letter P) My purpose is to find a good mystery that I can solve.  (Point to the letter I) I have interest in this book because I've read other books by this author. I love art, too, and the plot revolves around a famous painting.  (Point to the letter C) I can comprehend the book.  (Point to the letter K) I know the words, too!</p> <p>Listen as I read a short excerpt from the text (read pages 1-2 that introduce the mysterious delivery of a letter to three people). What a great opening for the book—the author captured my interest right away. It's intriguing and even a little scary! I understood the meaning of the introduction—I knew the words, and best of all, I couldn't wait to read more. I hope you agree that <i>Chasing Vermeer</i> is a good fit book for me. It might not be a good fit for everyone—it depends on the kinds of books a reader likes and whether that reader can understand the text and knows the words. But there are so many books in the library that everyone can find some that are a good fit. So, as you can see, finding a book for abundant easy reading is not a mystery. Like me, you can use I PICK to find a book that is just right for you!</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Practice</b>  (2 – 3 min.)</p>	<p>Turn and talk to your elbow buddy about the kinds of books you like for abundant easy reading. Name a couple of your favorite authors. Share a book or two from your box and tell what you are currently doing for abundant easy reading and what you would like to read next.</p> <p>Here are some sentence frames to get you started:</p> <p>When I do abundant easy reading, I like to read _____.</p> <p>Some of my favorite authors and illustrators are _____.</p> <p>The genres I like best are _____.</p> <p>Right now, I'm reading _____.</p> <p>The next time I get a new book, I'd like to read _____.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Encourage and Plan</b>  (1 – 2 min.)</p>	<p>Today we talked about something fun and exciting--abundant easy reading. You will enjoy reading books that are a good fit; when you know almost of the words and understand what you read, it's so much fun. I want to see you use this strategy during your independent reading. When it's time to pick a book from the school library or our classroom library, remember to find "good fit" books that you can use for abundant easy reading.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Common Core Alignment</b></p>	<p>Most strategies are applicable to all grade levels. Abundant Easy Reading aligns with Standards <a href="#">RL.6.10</a> and <a href="#">RI.6.10</a> on our <a href="#">Grade 6 CAFE Menu/CCSS Grade Level Matrix</a></p>

**Works Cited**

Boushey, G., & Moser, J. (2014). *The daily 5*. Portland, ME: Stenhouse.

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To build your classroom community of readers and promote abundant easy reading, here's a book recommendation to share. Students can display their recommendations in the classroom or school library. They can even submit them to be included in the classroom newsletter or school newspaper. Or, they can use the format to booktalk a favorite text for classmates!

## **Spread the News! Here's a MUST READ!**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Illustrator: \_\_\_\_\_

Genre: \_\_\_\_\_

What it's about: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Why you'll like it: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Book recommendation from: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_