

Beach Balls



Beach balls can be used as a nice, fun way to review story elements in after reading activities. Using a standard multicolored beach ball found in most stores, write a question in permanent marker in each slot. (Spraying the ball with hairspray will keep the marker from smudging.) Or better yet, ready-made beach balls can be purchased from Carson-Dellosa Publishing (CD-1050) for only \$3.99 for a package of two. Roll or toss the ball to students. As each student catches the ball, he/she must answer one of the questions. This idea works well for narrative and expository text. The beach ball is an interactive after reading activity that helps children develop two important comprehension strategies: following the structure of a story and summarizing.

Questions include:

Ball 1:

What is the title and who is the author?

Who are the main characters?

What is the setting?

What happened in the story?

How did it end?

What was your favorite part?

Ball 2:

My favorite part was....

The setting was.....

The main characters were....

In the beginning.....

In the middle.....

At the end.....

Some questions for expository text:

Who wrote the article and what do we know about the author?

What is the main idea of this article?

Name a supporting detail.

What would be a good title for this selection?

What did you learn?

What would you still like to find out about?

Kelli Roberts, kellir@earthlink.net has written the questions in Spanish.

¿Quién es el autor?

¿Quién es el ilustrador?

¿Qué es el lugar en el cuento? or ¿Dónde están en el cuento?

¿Qué es el problema?

¿Qué es la solución? or ¿Qué pasó al final?

¿Quién es el personaje principal?

¿Quiénes son los otros personajes?