

Bitsy Blew a Bubble Alliteration Lesson Plan

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Grades 2-5

Estimated time: 45 minutes (Not including Extension Activity)

Objectives:

Students will be able to ...

- Define alliteration
- Identify examples of alliteration in the book Bitsy Blew a Bubble by Jack Kohler
- Create examples of alliteration

Activity One: Bitsy Blew a Bubble (I do)

Read the book Bitsy Blew a Bubble by Jack Kohler to the class, allowing them to just enjoy the story and illustrations. Show the cover and ask students what they notice. Allow students to predict what the story will be about. Read the story, then ask students what they noticed in this story. They may notice that the story rhymes, or that there are many different animals in the story. There are really no wrong answers here, and it's okay if they haven't yet noticed that sometimes words in the same sentence began with the same sound. At this point we are really just activating their thinking.

If students have not noticed the repeated sounds on their own, guide them by returning to the cover of the book. "When I read the title of this book, I'm noticing that there is a repeated sound. I'm going to read the title again slowly and see if you can hear the repeated sound." Reread the title slowly, emphasizing the repeated "B". Ask students what sound they hear repeated in the title. "Yes, the "b" sound repeats three times in the title. Now, I know that sometimes authors use a repeated sound like this for effect, and that is called alliteration. Let's look at a few more examples.

Write the following sentences (or sentences of your own) on the board:

- Patty planted plenty of pumpkins.
- The snake slithered slowly across the sand.
- Ronald relished ravioli, while Carl craved crepes.

Read through sentence one slowly, pointing out and underlining the repeated sound. Do the same for sentence two. The students will likely be getting the hang of it by now, so ask them to help you with sentence three.

"You did a great job of helping me find the alliteration in that last sentence. I noticed many examples of alliteration in the book Bitsy Blew a Bubble, but before we take a closer look at that, let's practice our alliteration skills by playing the Silly Name Game.

Activity Two: The Silly Name Game (We do)

Have students sit in a circle. Remind students that alliteration is the repetition of the same sounds, or the same kinds of sounds, at the beginning of words or in stressed syllables. In this game, each student introduces themselves by adding an alliteration that describes them in front of their first name. For instance, my name is Jack, so I might begin by saying, "Hi, my name is Jaunty Jack." The next person in the circle must repeat that greeting, then add their own name and alliteration. For example, "Hi Jaunty Jack. My name is Silly Sarah." The third person then begins with, "Hi Jaunty Jack and Silly

Sarah, my name is..." adding their own name with an alliteration. Play continues until the last person in the group has repeated all the names with their associated alliterations. This activity is often used as an ice breaker at the start of the year, but works well even if the students already know each other's names. The emphasis is on their ability to create alliteration. End the activity by challenging one or two students to try to get around the whole circle saying each student's silly name without help or coaching.

Activity Three: Bitsy's Alliteration Search (You do)

Download and print the worksheet Bitsy's Alliteration Search.

Pass out the worksheet and explain to the class that, now that we understand what alliteration is, we're going to help Bitsy find examples from the book. Point out that the poem on the worksheet is the same poem from the book. Check for understanding before beginning the worksheet by asking students to turn to an elbow buddy and explain alliteration giving at least one example. Call on two or three students to report out.

Students will reread the poem, drawing a bubble around each example of alliteration they find. Do the first few lines together as a class to make sure everyone understands what to do, then have the students complete the worksheet on their own.

When the class has finished their alliteration search, explain that we are going to reread the book to check our work. Reread the pages of Bitsy Blew a Bubble one at a time, asking students what examples of alliteration they were able to find on that page, until you have read through the entire book a second time. Continue to engage students by asking questions such as:

- Were there any alliterations that you missed?
- Were there any word groups that you thought were an example of alliteration, but turned out not to be?
- What was your favorite alliteration from the book? Why?

To take the lesson even further, you can make an alliteration bulletin board on which students can post examples of alliteration they find in books they are reading on their own.

Extension Activity: Illustrated Alliteration

After reading Bitsy Blew a Bubble, ask students to think about where Bitsy's bubble might take her and her friends next. What kind of environment will it be? What kind of animal might live there? Have students draw a picture of what they are imagining and write a sentence that uses alliteration to go with it.