

Junior Teacher Ideas for *The Cat*

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Class Discussion

1. Read the story aloud, not including the introduction and with no reference to foster parents.
2. Have students write a response to the story.
3. Read the introduction/dedication and briefly discuss the concept of fostering.
4. Read the story a second time.
5. Discuss the students' connections to the story using discussion openers like:
 - What did the story remind you of?
 - How did the story touch you?
 - What did you learn from the story?
6. Have students write a second response to the story.

Role Play

Have one student interview another student who is playing the role of one of the characters in the story. Have the interviewer draw more from the character than was in the story so that the student being interviewed needs to create part of the story while staying in character.

Making Inferences From The Story

Create a timeline for one of the animals that the cat helped, including information that was not in the story, such as what happened before and after the contact with the cat. Turn your timeline into a story which is no longer than the original (330 words).

Making Inferences From The Illustrations

Do a picture walk through the illustrations of *The Cat*. Brainstorm what the story might be about. In pairs or individually, have students write the story of the illustrations. Have some students read their story, then read *The Cat* to the class and discuss similarities and differences between the stories.

Draw Illustrations

1. Read the story without showing the pictures.
2. Talk about what the cat and other animals are doing and what images spring to mind from the text.
3. Assign each student a page to illustrate. You may need to include title page, front and back inside of cover, and more than one image for some pages.



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