

Rivers

by Aaron Frisch

A simple and informative book featuring photographs that will have children eager to learn more about rivers.



Read

Before:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow that with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, *How would swimming in a river be different from swimming in a pool?* Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an "I wonder" statement based on the cover illustration.

- I wonder what kind of fish that is?

During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions, and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end. Point out "rare words" (e.g., those words that are not commonly used in every day conversation) and help the children relate the meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

Rare Words in *Rivers*

- rivers: natural stream of water that flows through land and empties into a body of water
- tributary: a stream or river feeding larger body of water
- banks: the steep side of a river, stream, lake, or canal
- flood: a very large amount of water covering previously dry area
- canyons: a deep narrow valley with steep sides, often with a stream running through it
- rapids: a part of a riverbed where the water moves very fast
- waterfalls: a stream of water falling over the edge of a steep place
- mist: a fine spray of liquid
- crops: a group of plants grown by people for food or other use
- dams: a barrier of concrete or earth that is built across a river or stream to control the flow of water
- polluted: to make something unclean
- garbage: discarded food waste or any other unwanted or useless material

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- What is the name of the biggest river there is?
- What are some different ways that rivers get water?
- What is a flood? What causes a flood?
- Have any of you ever been to a canyon?
- How many of you have ever seen a waterfall?
- What are some different ways people use river water?
- Why should people not put garbage in rivers?



Do

Make a River

Use the activity at the end of the book to make a river. Involve all the children by taking turns making the river and pouring the water.