

Text Complexity Analysis Template

Text complexity analysis						
Created by:	Courtney Smith	Event/Date:	Teachfest Connecticut Summer Academy/ July 29, 14			
Text and Author	Kate Coombs/ Water Sings Blue: Ocean Poems	Where to Access Text	Water Sings Blue: Ocean Poems pg.13			
Text Description						
This book is a collection of descriptive poems about the ocean. This particular poem describes the movement of a blue whale. The speaker of the poem is talking to the reader as if they are the blue whale.						
Quantitative						
Lexile and Grade Level	K-1	Text Length	25 words			
Qualitative						
Meaning/Central Ideas	Text Structure/Organization					
Some of the important text ideas include the movement of the ocean and the movement of a blue whale. The physical characteristics of a whale are described through the color and actions of a whale. These ideas are somewhat explicit but require inferencing.	Organized in one stanza and one sentence with four phrases. The graphic can be used to support the understanding of the text. It extends the meaning of the poem especially for lower level students. Understanding of similes and visualization. Being able to understand descriptive words.					
Prior Knowledge Demands	Language Features					
Requires some knowledge of the ocean and ocean animals. Understanding of similes and visualization. Being able to understand descriptive words.	I notice similes and words with multiple meanings. Many new vocabulary words and phrasing that requires inferring. There are somewhat unfamiliar words that can be subject specific but not overly academic. The structure of the sentences includes longer phrases and clauses.					
Potential Reader/Task Challenges						
Students may struggle with understanding specific vocabulary words. One of the phrases in the poem is a simile that can be difficult to connect to the overall theme of the poem. Some students may not have previous knowledge of the ocean and words that are used in the text to describe the ocean. If students have difficulty inferencing or understanding figurative language it can hinder their ability to reach the big take away.						
Big Takeaway						
Having an understanding of the physical characteristics of a whale, using information and the description in the poem. For example: A whale is a dark blue animal that lives in the ocean and is very large and powerful. Its body moves slowly through the water and pushes other fish aside.						

Vocabulary Analysis Template

	Words that demand less teaching time (i.e. the definition is singular and concrete)	Words that demand more teaching time (i.e. words with multiple meanings and/or that are part of a word family)
Words that can be determined in context	Belly Little Fish	
Words that cannot be determined in context	Sweeping Billow Swell Rolling	Tide Planet Through Midnight Grand Through