Officer Buckle and Gloria

Written and Illustrated by Peggy Rathmann

Officer Buckle has a difficult time holding students' attention when sharing his beloved safety tips until Gloria, a police dog, joins him. The experience leads to an important lesson on the value of friendship and teamwork.

Possible strategies for instruction:

Comprehension

- Infer and support with evidence.
 - What can we infer from this illustration that the author does not tell us with words?
 - O What can we infer about how Officer Buckle feels?
 - O What can we infer about how Gloria feels?

• Recognize and explain cause-and-effect relationships.

- O Why do the kids start listening to Officer Buckle during the safety assembly?
- O Why does Officer Buckle think his safety tips are so funny?
- Why does Officer Buckle think the kids' drawings show a lot of imagination?
- Why does Officer Buckle not want to do his safety speech for Napville School?
- What happens at Napville School because Officer Buckle does not give his speech with Gloria?
- O Why does Claire's note make Officer Buckle smile?

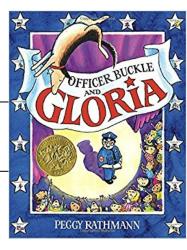
Accuracy

• Use the pictures . . . Do the words and the pictures match?

The pictures in a story can help us figure out and confirm the meaning of words—thumbtacked (p. 1), bulletin board (p. 1), swivel chair (p. 1), obeys (p. 5), attention (p. 7), expression (p. 11), enormous (p. 12), imagination (p. 13).

Cross checking.

While reading the story, stop at some of the more difficult words. After reading the sentence, look back at the difficult word and have the students use the pictures and sounds to see if the word makes sense—thumbtacked (p. 1), bulletin board (p. 1), swivel chair (p. 1), obeys (p. 5), attention (p. 7), expression (p. 11), enormous (p. 12), imagination (p. 13).



Fluency

- Use punctuation to enhance phrasing and prosody.
 - Model the different ways we can read the following sentences and explain how the use of capital letters and punctuation gives us clues.
 - p. 1: "NEVER stand on a SWIVEL CHAIR."
 - p. 5: "Gloria, SIT!"
 - p. 10: "NEVER leave a THUMBTACK where you might SIT on it!"
 - p. 20: "DO NOT GO SWIMMING DURING ELECTRICAL STORMS!"
 - p. 24: "Well! How about Gloria? Could she come?"
 - p. 26: "SPLAT! SPLATTER! SPLOOSH!"
 - p. 30: "ALWAYS STICK WITH YOUR BUDDY!"

Expand Vocabulary

- Tune in to interesting words and use new vocabulary in speaking and writing.
 - Focus on a few interesting words from the story: accident, attention, buddy, enormous, obeys, and tips, discuss their meaning, and add them to the word wall.
- Use prior knowledge and context to predict and confirm meaning.
 - Discuss the following words and phrases and how prior knowledge helps us determine the meaning of business as usual (p. 3), obeys my commands (p. 5), and auditorium (p. 18).

This text can be used with nearly any strategy on the CAFE Menu. The above strategies are a highlighted collection to use as a springboard for further instruction.

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