

Kindergarten: Readers' Workshop
(90 Reading Block)

Mini Lesson: Digging Dog—digging for details

Materials: “Digger the Dog” sign; nonfiction animal big book *Up, Down, All Around*; student copies of nonfiction books

1. Introduce “Digging Dog.” Have you seen a dog dig? Why do dogs dig? What do they find when they dig?
2. When we read a book, we dig. As readers, what do we dig for? What is important in this book? What is the author telling us? What are the facts?
3. Tell students that we are going to learn how to “dig” today while we do a picture walk. Use a big book to model this activity: *Up, Down, All Around*.
4. We are going to dig for facts so we can make a sandwich out of the important ideas in this book. Show sandwich graphic organizer with one detail per sandwich layer.
5. Do a picture walk through the book about rain forest animals. Where is this animal? Up or down? What color is the animal? What is it doing? Is it alone? What does the author want us to know about animals in the rain forest? Is this book fiction or nonfiction?
6. With the students, compose one detail to write on the sandwich graphic organizer on the easel.
7. Explain that student partners sit at the table will dig up **one** fact for the book they share. They will each write their fact on their own sandwich graphic organizer. (Show example.)
8. Dismiss students in pairs and give each pair two sheets and one book.
9. Have a reading celebration.