

Title: When Lightening Comes in a Jar

Author: Patricia Polacco

Genre: Realistic Fiction

Mini Lesson: Reading Strategy: Prediction

Materials: Reader's Toolkit, pencil, Prediction pink sticky notes, anchor chart or reading response journal for sticky note responses.

Text and/or page numbers *To follow along with the lesson, please number the pages in your book beginning with the first page of text "Today is my family reunion!" as page 1.	Prompt for Think Aloud (Teacher Action)	Prompt for Turn and Talk (Student Activity)	Prompt for Stop-Jot-Share (Student Activity)	Assessment
Before Reading: Share the title, author and cover with the students. Let's read to find out.	I noticed next to the title of the story it said "Come to a family reunion.", I wonder what lightning in a jar has to do with a family reunion.	Have you ever been to a family reunion? Share this with your partner.		<i>Share with the students that Patricia Polacco writes many stories about her family.</i>
Read aloud page 1.			What do you predict "Lightening in a jar" might be? Write your response on a pink sticky note. Share with a partner/class.	Refer to the Reader Response Rubric in the Teacher's Guide to guide your assessment for an appropriate prediction.

<p>Read aloud page 3.</p> <p>Text to text connection: <i>The Relatives Came</i> by Cynthia Rylant</p>	<p>This reminds me of another book I read called <i>The Relatives Came</i>. It was about a family reunion.</p>			
<p>Read aloud pages 5 and 6.</p>	<p>I think that Jell-o salads and meatloafs are the favorite foods.</p>	<p>What are some favorite foods you have at family reunions?</p>		
<p>Read aloud pages 7 – 14.</p>		<p>What do you think Patricia meant when she said “Gramma would summon the lightening from the sky?”</p>		<p>Invite students to share their responses.</p>
<p>Read aloud pages 15 – 24. At the beginning of the page, have students close their eyes.</p>	<p>Mental Image: When I read this page, I can see pictures in my mind. I can imagine what it must have looked like and felt like, being there....</p>			
<p>Read aloud page 25.</p>			<p>Refer back to your original prediction. Confirm or clarify what lightning in a</p>	<p>Confirm your prediction</p>

			jar means.	
Read aloud pages 26 to the end of the story.	When I read the last page, I wondered what the author meant when she wrote "who loved them even before they were born".	Share with your partner what you think that means.		Inferring