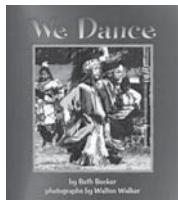


We Dance

by Beth Becker
photographs by Walton Walker



Book Summary

Walton Walker's photographs show the fun, the colors, and the action as a group of Native American people gather to enjoy themselves and to buy and sell traditional crafts.

Features of the Book

- Sentences spread over two pages.
- The “dr” blend – “drum.”
- The “ch” word ending – “march” and “watch.”
- The repeated words – “some of us.”
- The verbs – “ride,” “sit,” “march,” “watch,” “drum,” and “dance.”
- The high-frequency words – “At,” “the,” and “and.”
- Clear type, consistently placed.

Purpose

We Dance can be used in a guided reading setting to introduce the following skills and strategies:

- sharing ideas about the story with others in the group;
- predicting the meanings of new or unfamiliar words from the context of the story;
- responding to simple questions about the story's content;
- writing a story that incorporates a similar model to that of the book.

Introducing the text

Hold up the book and encourage the children to share their experiences.

- *What kind of dance are these people doing?*
- *Where have you seen clothes like this before?*
- *What are they made from?*
- *Do you know where dancing like this happens?*

Read the title and the names of the author and photographer to the group.

Reading the text

- Sharing ideas about the story with others in the group.

■ Predicting the meanings of new or unfamiliar words from the context of the story.

■ Responding to simple questions about the story's content.

Page 2

- *What kind of gathering is this?*
- *Can you see any special kind of shelter?*

Pages 3 to 6 – Focus on the action on each page.

- *What are these people doing?*
- *Can you point to the word that tells you?*

Page 7

- *What is happening here?*

Look at the inset.

- *Why do you think they need drums at a fair?*

Page 8

- *Were you right?*

Children now read the book independently.

Revisiting the text

Find the word on each page that tells us about an action.

Ask the children to each mime one of the actions from the story for the others to guess.

Make a list of “dancing” words, for example, leap, skip, or twirl, and see who can show the group how these are done.

Following Up

■ Writing a story that incorporates a similar model to that of the book.

► Encourage the children to write about a celebration they have attended.

- Provide a range of books so that the children can read more widely about the history and customs of Native American people.

■ Complete the blackline master opposite.