

Full of Hot Air

by Anna Kenna

Summary

Two families are enjoying a trip in a hot-air balloon, but not everyone realizes that Soon is scared of heights. His friend does his best to help.

Features of the Text

- First-person recount
- Puns related to hot-air ballooning – *full of hot air*; *having a bad air day*
- Factual information
- Similes
- Illustrations from unusual perspectives

Purpose

Full of Hot Air can be used for the following purposes:

- introducing the ideas and vocabulary in the associated nonfiction title;
- exploring factual information in a fiction text;
- forming and justifying opinions about characters' actions.

Guided Reading Summary

Introducing the text

Look at the cover together. Ask the students what they know about hot-air ballooning and list their responses on

Following Up

The students can:

- use the blackline master on page 49 to evaluate the characters' actions
- draw a labeled diagram of an inflated hot-air balloon
- draw their neighborhood as it might appear from hot-air balloon.

the board. Explain that they will be asked to add new information to this list and that they may change their original ideas as they read.

– *How would you feel about riding in a hot-air balloon? Why?*

Reading and discussing the text

Ask the students to read to the end of page 7, then discuss the factual information.

– *What new information can we add to our list?*

If any of their original ideas have proven incorrect, negotiate with the students to either change or erase them. Continue amending the list as the students read.

– *How does Soon feel about hot-air ballooning? What evidence in the text supports this?*

– *Have the others noticed his feelings? How do you know?*

Ask the students to read to the end of page 10. Add any new information to the list.

– *How does the author reveal Soon's feelings?*

The students can now read to the end of the story.

– *Do you think Soon will go hot-air ballooning again? Why?*

Discuss how the students recognized the factual information. Discuss the features of a fiction text that indicates that its facts are probably accurate (believable plot, correct information, consistency).

– *Do you think that the facts in this book are true? Why?*