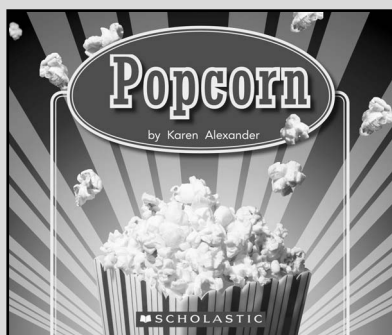


Popcorn



Popcorn Teachers' Notes

Learning objective: Year 1, 7a: Find specific information in simple texts

Key words: kernel, special, machines

Cross-curricular/theme links: Food and cooking

Genre: Non-fiction

NC level: Approximately Level 1C-1B

Assessment: AF2, Level 1: Some simple points from familiar texts recalled

Word count: 130

Getting started

Look at the cover together. Ask: 'Have you ever eaten popcorn? What does it taste like? Do you know how it is made?' Share the children's ideas and invite them to predict what sort of information will be in this book.

Guided reading

Pages 2-5: Remind the children to use their knowledge of phonics to help them read unfamiliar words. Ask: 'Have you seen corn growing like this in a field? Have you ever eaten sweetcorn or corn on the cob?'

Pages 6-9: Encourage the children to read the description of how popcorn pops very carefully. Can they explain the process to you?

Pages 10-15: Ask: 'Have you ever seen popcorn being made, or helped to make it at home? What did it sound like? What did it smell like?' Encourage the children to read the text with appropriate expression.

Page 16: Do the children agree with the last sentence of the book?

Speaking and listening

- Ask the children to form pairs and think up a question about the book to ask their partner. For example, 'What page shows corn plants growing?' or 'What are the corn seeds called?'

After reading

Use these questions to help children talk about the text.

- Did this book tell you anything you didn't already know about popcorn? What was it?
- What is an 'ear' of corn?
- Do you need a big machine to make popcorn?

Reading into writing

Children could write a simple list poem or acrostic poem about popcorn, perhaps focusing on how it looks, what it sounds like, how it smells and how it tastes.

Book quiz for children

- 1 Where do corn kernels grow?
- 2 What is special about popping corn?
- 3 Which page in the book shows you what an ear of corn looks like?

Support for less confident readers

Less confident readers may benefit from reading this text with a partner, perhaps taking alternate pages.

Extension for more confident readers

The children could have a go at making popcorn (under supervision!) and write their own set of instructions for making it.