

Title: Thank you, Mr. Falker

Author: Patricia Polacco

Genre: Realistic Fiction

Mini Lesson: Reading Skill: Author's Purpose and Character Feelings Reading Strategy: Author's Message and Self Questioning

Materials: Reader's Toolkit, Author's Message yellow sticky notes, T charts

	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.		Why do you think the girl on the cover is upset?		
Read aloud the first page of the story: The grandpa held the jar.....	When I read that I wondered why the grandpa poured honey on the book.		AUTHOR'S MESSAGE Why does the author compare "honey" with "books"? Write your response on your yellow sticky note.	Sticky note response. Post sticky note responses on T chart. (knowledge is sweet)
Read aloud the next page beginning with: Trisha, the littlest girl in the family...		What do you know so far about Trisha.		Good at drawing. Cannot read yet.
Read aloud the next page beginning with: In first grade, Trisha sat in a circle with the other kids.	I can make a connection to the teacher in the story. (share a personal connection)			
Read aloud the next two pages beginning with: The harder words got for the little girl.... Ending with: School seemed harder and harder now.		Why is school harder for Trisha now?		She doesn't have her grandma to make her feel special.

<p>Read aloud the next three pages beginning with: Reading was just plain torture. Ending with: How she longed to go back to her grandparents' farm in Michigan.</p>	<p>Trisha has many different feelings going on her mind. Let's try and list all her feelings and why she is feeling this way. (Generate feeling words)</p>	<p>.</p>	<p>SELF QUESTIONING How do you think Trisha is feeling? Why? Write your response on your green sticky note.</p>	<p>Sticky note response. Post sticky note responses on T chart. Responses should indicate Trisha is sad because she is moving and kids make fun of her. Happy because maybe the new kids won't know she can't read. Worried because she can't read...etc...</p>
<p>Read aloud the next two pages beginning with: Now Trisha wanted to go to school less and less. Ending with: "Stop! Are all of you so perfect that you can look at another person and find fault with her"?</p>		<p>Do you know how talented you are? Tell your partner something you are very good at.</p>		<p>Examples may include reading, sports, drawing, etc...</p>
<p>Read aloud the next three pages beginning with: That was the last day anyone laughed out loud. Ending with: "I don't know." Trisha shrugged.</p>	<p>When I look at Trisha in the picture, I feel sorry for her. I just want to give her a hug. As a teacher, I want to help her and also find out why Eric is so mean to her.</p>		<p>SELF QUESTIONING Let's add to our "Trisha's Feelings" T chart. How do you think Trisha is feeling? Why? Can you think of new feelings besides what is already on the T Chart? Write your response on a green sticky note.</p>	<p>Sticky note response. Post sticky note responses on T chart. Additional responses may include scared, confused, insecure.</p>
<p>Read aloud the rest of the story.</p>	<p>Trisha's feeling change from the beginning of the story to the end of the story.</p>	<p>Tell your partner how her feelings have changed and why.</p>		<p>Teacher adds additional "feelings" on the T chart.</p>