

MINI LESSON



Setting

Objective: SW be able to define setting, understand the elements of setting and how to determine them from a given text.

Materials: A copy of the story, Two Bad Ants by Van Allsburg, a variety of children's books, basal, and other sources that are rich with setting, Smart board or projector, I.S.N.'s and pencils.

"I do": SW draw a circle map in their ISN labeled, Two Bad Ants. TW read a short passage from the story, Two Bad Ants without showing the pictures to the class. SW listen carefully to the passage. Using the circle map, SW brainstorm all the possibilities of what the ants are doing and where they might be. Once the answer has been given or students have given up, TW review the following:

- The time, place and environment of a story is called the setting.
- Elements of Setting:
 - **Place** - geographical location. Where is the action of the story taking place?
 - **Time** - When is the story taking place? (historical period, time of day, year, etc)
 - **Environment-**
 - **Weather conditions** - Is it rainy, sunny, stormy, etc?
 - **Social conditions** - What is the daily life of the characters like?
 - **Mood or atmosphere** - What feeling is created at the beginning of the story? Is it bright and cheerful or dark and frightening?
 - **Culture-** Types of food, clothing, religion, race, etc...

"We do": During mini lesson, SW take notes on setting and discussion. TW then tell students that they are going to go for a walk outside to truly experience setting. Using their notes, SW write down all the elements of setting that they experience using their 5 senses.

"You do": SW use their setting experience notes and use the setting in a short story. Teacher may want to briefly review the elements of a story and suggest using the writing process.

Extension: After SSR time, SW create a detailed Setting sequence flow chart of the book they are reading. SW turn this in as an "exit ticket" at the end of class. TW use this to assess student's understanding of setting.

Conferencing: TW work with small groups to practice setting.

