

Unit 5/Week 1

Title: Penguin Chick¹

Suggested Time: 5 days (45 minutes per day)

Common Core ELA Standards: RI.3.1, RI.3.2, RI.3.3, RI.3.4, RI.3.7, RI.3.8; RF.3.3, RF.3.4; W.3.2, W.3.4; SL.3.1, SL.3.2, SL.3.6; L.3.1, L.3.2, L.3.3, L.3.4

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Teacher Instructions

Refer to the Introduction for further details.

Before Teaching

1. Read the Big Ideas and Key Understandings and the Synopsis. Please do **not** read this to the students. This is a description for teachers, about the big ideas and key understanding that students should take away **after** completing this task.

Big Ideas and Key Understandings

An animal's habitat determines its physical characteristics and behaviors.

Synopsis

In this nonfiction selection, an Emperor penguin lays an egg in the bitter cold of Antarctica. The penguin parents battle the harsh environment to protect the egg and nurture the chick to maturity.

2. Read entire main selection text, keeping in mind the Big Ideas and Key Understandings.
3. Re-read the main selection text while noting the stopping points for the Text Dependent Questions and teaching Vocabulary.

¹ *This story is a "duplicate." (It is found in other basals, as well.) This particular revision was completed by a teacher who uses a different basal, so the page numbers have been removed. This may require you to make some adjustments/add page numbers to some of the questions.*

During Teaching

1. Students read the entire main selection text independently.
2. Teacher reads the main selection text aloud with students following along. (Depending on how complex the text is and the amount of support needed by students, the teacher may choose to reverse the order of steps 1 and 2.)
3. Students and teacher re-read the text while stopping to respond to and discuss the questions and returning to the text. A variety of methods can be used to structure the reading and discussion (e.g., whole class discussion, think-pair-share, independent written response, group work, etc.)

Text Dependent Questions

Text Dependent Questions	Answers
<p>The author uses the word fierce to describe the wind and the word whip to describe how the snow moved. What do these two words mean? What do these 2 sentences tell us about the environment in which this story takes place?</p>	<p>Fierce - Extremely severe or violent Whip - To strike with repeated strokes</p> <p>The environment is harsh, extreme, dangerous.</p>
<p>A female penguin lays an egg on the ice in Antarctica. The father tucks the egg into a special place called a brood patch. Why does the author compare the brood patch to a sleeping bag?</p>	<p>The brood patch is snug and warm and keeps the egg safe. Thick cover; type of shelter</p>
<p>Why does the father stay with the egg instead of the mother?</p>	<p>The mother has to travel to sea to find food. The penguin father is bigger and fatter than the mother and can also live longer without food.</p>
<p>The penguins lay their eggs on the ice where there is no food. In your own words, describe where the mother goes for food and the kind of food she hunts for once she gets there.</p>	<p>To get food, the mother has to travel to the end of the ice. Because it is winter, the ice stretches for a very long distance. It takes the mother 3 days to reach the open water. She dives into the water to hunt for fish, squid, and krill.</p>

Based on what you know from the story, what is a rookery? What happens at a rookery?	A rookery is a place where many birds go to lay their eggs.
The author writes that the father penguins form a huddle. In your own words, what does it mean to huddle? Why do the fathers form a huddle at the rookery?	Huddle means “to crowd together.” The father penguins huddle at the rookery to keep warm.
What are some details that show how the father penguin takes care of the egg?	The father penguin keeps the egg on his feet for 2 months. He shuffles when walks so the egg doesn’t roll away. He sleeps standing up. He has no food to eat.
What words does the author use to help you picture the penguin chick?	Wet, soft, dry, fluffly, gray, little, warm
To what is the father’s voice compared? Based on what you know about this object, what does this tell you about how he talks to his penguin chick?	The father’s call is loud and can reach the mother across the ice.
What details show how the mother penguin cares for her chick?	She cuddles close to her chick. She uses her beak to brush his soft gray down. She feeds her chick.
How is a penguin chick’s life different as he grows older? What remains the same?	The penguin chick’s life different because he no longer needs to stay on his parents’ feet; instead, spends most of his time in the crèche or nursery. He digs his beak into the ice to help him walk up a slippery hill. He toboggans on his belly. What remains the same is that he is still dependent on his mother and father for food.
How does the illustration on page ___ help you to understand what it means to “toboggan down fast”?	The picture shows the way in which the penguins climb the hill and then jump on their bellies and slide or toboggan down the hill. They don’t need sleds because their stomachs are their sleds.
What does the timeline on pages _____ show us about the growth of a penguin chick?	Physical and behavioral changes over a 6 month period Change is size, feather changes, change in color, dependent to independent, when he leaves the brood patch

After five months, the penguin has grown into a junior penguin. What is he able to do now that he is older? What changes in his body allow him to be able to do this?

He is able to travel to the ocean, where he can swim in the water. His new coat of feathers keeps him dry and warm, where his fluffy down could not do this. He uses his webbed feet to steer him wherever he wants to go. He catches fish with his beak and takes care of himself.

Vocabulary

	KEY WORDS ESSENTIAL TO UNDERSTANDING	WORDS WORTH KNOWING General teaching suggestions are provided in the Introduction
TEACHER PROVIDES DEFINITION not enough contextual clues provided in the text		Webbed Shuffle Echoes Down Junior Mate Steer
STUDENTS FIGURE OUT THE MEANING sufficient context clues are provided in the text	Fierce, whip Rookery, huddle Trumpet Toboggan	Scoop Snug Pecks Cracks Preen Waterproof Flapping

Culminating Task

- Re-Read, Think, Discuss, Write

Use details from the story to complete a flow map/chart sequencing the life of an emperor penguin chick from the time the egg is laid to the time it becomes a junior penguin. Be sure not to leave out any major events, and use transition words between ideas. Use the information in the flow map to write a detailed paragraph about the life of a penguin. Your paragraph must include at least 5 details from the story.

Answer: The life an emperor penguin chick begins from the moment the egg is laid during the cold winter months. At first, the father penguin protects the egg from the cold, in a pouch called a brood from the cold and fierce Antarctica weather. As the penguin grows and grows, the mother leaves the father and egg to go in search of food. Meanwhile, the father penguins keep the eggs in a huddle and shuffles back and forth to keep the eggs alive and to make sure that it doesn't roll away. After about three days, the penguin chicks begin to peck and crack open the eggs. Next, The penguin chick awaits the mom penguin to secure food and nourishment. After weeks of receiving food and care from their mother, the penguin chick is kept warm by the parent's preening. As the chicks get older, they start to form small groups with other penguin chicks and learn how to keep themselves safe and warm. Penguin chicks turn into junior penguins and learn how to swim, retrieve food and take care of himself. Finally, in about five years the young penguin will find a mate, take care of his own egg and wait for the chick to hatch.

Name _____ Date _____

“Penguin Chick”

1. The author uses the word fierce to describe the wind and the word whip to describe how the snow moved. What do these two words mean? What do these 2 sentences tell us about the environment in which this story takes place?
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4. The penguins lay their eggs on the ice where there is no food. In your own words, describe where the mother goes for food and the kind of food she hunts for once she gets there.

