|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Jennica Basler  EDR 626  Text Analysis  **The Littlest Dinosaur**  By: Michael Foreman  Purpose: learning about the letter “Dd”,  studying a unit on dinosaurs | | | |
| **Page #** | **Text** | **Structure Notes by page**  **What does the author do? What is his purpose?** | **Important ideas notes- for each thematic unit: State important ideas in sentences that would be evidence of student learning** |
| 1 | Long, long ago when the world was young and everything was new, a mother dinosaur sat proudly on her eggs. | Setting up the time and place of the story. | This happened a long time ago. |
| 4 | One by one, the eggs began to crack, and baby dinosaurs poked their heads out into the sunshine. All except one. The mother worried and fussed about it and kept it warm and sang songs to it. But the egg didn’t crack. The neighbors came by with help and advice. “Make it warmer,” they said. “Keep it cool,” they suggested. | A problem is introduced: one of the mother’s eggs won’t crack. | The mother is very upset that one of her eggs won’t hatch. The neighbors are trying to help by giving her ideas of what to do. Children may make connections to a time when they’ve felt the same. They may express their fear for the dinosaur as they commiserate with the characters. |
| 5 | The mother was very loving and lay beside the egg all the time. She breathed on it to keep it warm, or fanned it with banana leaves to cool it down. But still the egg didn’t crack. | She stayed by the egg for a long time trying to hatch it. | They waited a very long time for the egg to hatch, and finally it cracked open. The mothers patience worked. It was so good of her to wait patiently and nurse her egg. |
| 6 | The father dinosaur wanted to break the egg open but the mother said, “No. It will happen when the baby is ready, not before.” | The father wants the egg to open now; the mother wants to give it time. |
| 7 | One day, the father dinosaur became so tired of looking after all the other young dinosaurs while the mother fussed over the egg that he put his face very close to the egg and shouted, “Come on, egg! Do something!” The egg shook. The egg wobbled, and then it began to crack. A little crack at first, then a big crack, and the shell broke in two. The baby dinosaur blinked in the sunlight. | The father is tired of waiting and yells at the egg. The egg cracks open. |
| 9 | The father dinosaur gasped. The mother dinosaur gasped. They had never seen such a tiny baby. “That’s the littlest dinosaur I have ever seen,” said the father. “He’s no bigger than a dinosaur’s toe!” | The parents were surprised at how tiny the dinosaur was. | The dinosaur is so tiny. Neighbors are making fun of it. This is not very nice. The mother probably is feeling hurt by their rudeness. The mother loves it all the same. Will he be ok? |
| 11 | The neighbors began to giggle. “Oh! He may be tiny, but he’s very special to me,” cried the mother dinosaur, and she scooped up the baby and kissed his tiny face. | The neighbors laugh, the mother loves him. |
| 12 | Days and weeks passed, and no matter how much food the mother dinosaur gave the baby, he didn’t grow any bigger. | The dinosaur never grew. He started feeling the effects of his size. | How does it feel when you can’t play with older/bigger kids or are left out? What is it like to be different? |
| 13 | The littlest dinosaur was sad because he was too small to join his big brothers and sisters when they played. And what if one of his huge neighbors stepped on him by accident? |
| 15 | The only place the littlest dinosaur felt safe was high on a hill. There he could sit and look down on the forest. It made him feel bigger. | He found a secret spot where he could sit and feel safe. | He felt safe because for once he felt big and the forest looked small. |
| 16 | One day, far away on another hill, he saw another dinosaur. It was a Long Neck. Even at that distance, he looked sad. The littlest dinosaur wondered how a dinosaur that big could possibly be sad. | Author introduces another character: Long Neck. | Why is the Long Neck sad? He was big, he should be happy, but something must be upsetting him. |
| 17 | When the rainy season began, the big dinosaurs squelched and rolled in the mud. But not the littlest dinosaur. He hated the mud. He was always getting stuck in the other dinosaurs’ big, muddy footprints and having to yell, “Help! Get me out of here!” | The rainy season is an important time change in this section. Once again he feels left out. | Poor dinosaur, he cannot do anything the other dinosaurs do. He must feel left out and sad. |
| 19 | One day, the father dinosaur got stuck. He was squelching and rolling in the deep mud at the edge of the river. But when he tried to get out, he couldn’t. The more he struggled, the more he got stuck. | The author is setting up the climax of the book. Everyone gets stuck in the mud and only the littlest dinosaur is left to save them… what will he do in his moment to shine? | Think about ways the littlest dinosaur could help them get out. Remember the Long Neck… maybe he could help them. Children should make the connection at this point that there is a way for the littlest dinosaur to help and he does have one friend who could save the day. |
| 20 | “Get me out of here!” he yelled. The mother tried to help, but she got stuck. The neighbors tried to help, and they got stuck. The littlest dinosaurs brothers and sisters waded in and they got stuck too. “Get us out of here!” they all yelled. The littlest dinosaur wished and wished that he was big enough to rescue them. |
| 21 | “You have to go for help,” said the mother dinosaur. But who could help? Wondered the littlest dinosaur. Then he remembered the Long Neck. | He remembers the Ling Neck. | Children should explain why the long neck could help in this situation. Draw inferences as to what strategy he could use to save the dinosaurs. |
| 23 | The littlest dinosaur was scared when he stepped from the riverbank onto a water lily leaf. It tipped and dipped, but it didn’t sink. | He was scared. | Children should understand that he is so tiny that is why the lily leaf won’t sink. Make connections that this is finally a positive result from his tininess. |
| 24 | One leaf at a time, he wibbled and wobbled his way across the river, then ran through the forest and climbed the hill, slipping and sliding, sliding and slipping, until he got to the top. | He got to the Long Neck after lots of slipping. He asks his friend for help. | Children should make the connection that he had a long hard voyage to get help, and was being very heroic at this point. It was very brave of him to ask the huge Long Neck for help. |
| 25 | There he was- the Long Neck. He looked down at the littlest dinosaur. “Help me please,” the littlest dinosaur cried. “My family is stuck in the river and the water is rising fast!” |
| 27 | The Long Neck picked him up and, with great, long strides, was soon down the hill, through the forest, and at the riverbank. He stretched his neck across the river and began pulling out the sinking dinosaurs, until one by one they were all safe on the shore. “Thank you!” the father dinosaur shouted as he waved to the Long Neck. “And as for you,” he said, picking up the littlest dinosaur, “you may be the size of a bug, but you’re as brave as a dinosaur one hundred times your size.” And he kissed him on his tiny nose. | Author solves the problem in this section. The littlest dinosaur saves the day by getting his friend Long Neck to save al the dinosaurs. Even though the littlest dinosaur is so tiny, he is very brave. | Children may make connections to themselves here. Even though we may have some things that hold us back, or some things we are not great at, we all have gifts and strengths that make us great. |
| 29 | When the rains stopped and the river was not so wide, the littlest dinosaur went to visit the Long Neck again. He no longer looked so sad. “I thought I was too big and clumsy to do anything useful,” he said, “but now I know that’s not true.” “And I thought I was too small to do anything at all,” laughed the littlest dinosaur. They sat together on the hill, the biggest and the littlest, and now the greatest of friends. | Author shows that in the end the littlest and the biggest dinosaurs are forever friends. They found they both thought their differences were bad, but learned they were good in the end. | Realizing that all of us have differences but we need to find the strengths within us and celebrate the things that make us great. It doesn’t matter what you are, just be yourself, and that is the best thing you can be. |

**Outline of organization of text ideas:**

1. Setting described
2. Problem introduced: mothers egg won’t hatch
   1. She patiently waits by it and cares for it
   2. Father finally yells at it and it cracks open
3. The dinosaur is very tiny and he doesn’t grow.
   1. People make fun of him and he feels different.
   2. He finds a secret spot and sees a sad Long Neck
4. The climax of the story: The dinosaurs all get stuck in the mud.
   1. The littlest dinosaur is their only chance at survival.
   2. He bravely travels to the Long Neck and asks for his help
5. The resolution of the story: The Long Neck pulls all the dinosaurs out.
   1. They are grateful and praise the littlest dinosaur for his bravery
   2. The Long Neck and littlest dinosaur find commonality in both thinking that their differences are bad when in fact they learn together that differences can sometimes be strengths.