

Learning together

Identifying Sentences for Better Comprehension

ACTIVITY #8

SEQUENCE: READING STRATEGIES –
1ST CYCLE – PRIMARY

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Purpose of the activity

In previous activities, we explored different strategies to read words effectively. Now, we will focus on strategies to understand the text while reading. The goal of this activity is to identify sentences to better understand the text.



Relevance of the activity

As your child is a beginner reader, it is important to check their understanding of what is read as they progress through the text. For your child to understand the main idea of a paragraph or a text, they must be able to understand each sentence they read. To do this, they need to be able to identify a sentence.



Supplies

- Text *Flamie, the Pink Flamingo! Identifying sentences* (see Appendix)

To carry out this activity, you can also use:

- texts from school that your child has to read;
- a book at your child's reading level.



LET'S GO!

What?



Today, we will learn to identify sentences to better understand what we are reading.

Why?



In previous activities, we looked at strategies to read words. But to understand a text, you also need to make connections between the words in a sentence.

To help you, you can use visual cues such as a capital letter and a period to know where a sentence begins and ends.

When?



Whenever you read a text, pay particular attention to clues that allow you to locate sentences in the text. Stop after each of them and ask yourself who or what the text is talking about and what is being said about it.

How?



Let's go back to the text Flamie, the Pink Flamingo! This time, the images have been removed from the text.

Look over the text *Flamie, the Pink Flamingo!* in the Appendix with your child.

It may seem like there is more text to read! This is when you need to be able to identify the beginning and the end of each sentence.

Show your child the three excerpts from the text *Flamie, the Pink Flamingo!*

As you can see, there are three versions of this text: one with colour-coded cues, one with bold cues, and one without any cues.

These versions help us see the importance of punctuation marks, such as capital letters and periods, which indicate the beginning and the end of a sentence. We can use punctuation marks to identify shorter sentences and longer ones.

We can also use these cues to identify different **types of sentences**.

- The **question mark** indicates an **interrogative sentence** → *Show the sentence in the text to your child.*
Exemple: Do you know Flamie?
→ The question mark (?) is used to ask a question.
- The **period** indicates a **declarative sentence** → *Show the sentence in the text to your child.*
Exemple: She is a beautiful pink bird, who lives in marshes and lakes.
→ The period (.) is used to give information.
- The **exclamation mark** indicates an **exclamatory sentence** → *Show the sentence in the text to your child.*
Exemple: Pink flamingos are extraordinary animals!
→ The exclamation mark (!) is used to show emotion.



This can also help us adjust our reading to better understand the text.

Read the text Flamie, the Pink Flamingo! with your child.

After reading each sentence, ask them:

- Who or what is the sentence about?
- What is being said about it?
- If possible, when or where is it happening?



You see, this way, we make sure we understand each sentence, and it helps us remember new information as we progress through the text.

You can now practise this strategy with a book that is appropriate for your child's reading level.



Don't forget!

When you read a printed text, you can highlight punctuation marks using the colours of your choice.



Flamie, the Pink Flamingo!

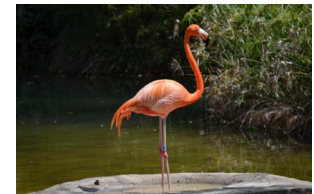
Do you know Flamie? She is a beautiful pink bird, who lives in marshes and lakes. Flamie is very elegant with her pretty feathers and long, thin legs. Flamie likes to be with other pink flamingos. Sometimes, they band together in big groups to eat and rest. Do you know why Flamie is pink? It's because of the food that she eats. She eats small shellfish that look like tiny shrimp. Flamie moves around easily in the water thanks to her webbed feet. They stop her from sinking into the silt and help her to balance. When you see a pink flamingo like Flamie, take a moment to admire their beauty. Pink flamingos are extraordinary animals!



Source: Chat GPT

Flamie, the Pink Flamingo!

Do you know Flamie? **S**he is a beautiful pink bird, who lives in marshes and lakes. **F**lamie is very elegant with her pretty feathers and long, thin legs. **F**lamie likes to be with other pink flamingos. **S**ometimes, they band together in big groups to eat and rest. **D**o you know why Flamie is pink? **I**t's because of the food that she eats. **S**he eats small shellfish that look like tiny shrimp. **F**lamie moves around easily in the water thanks to her webbed feet. **T**hey stop her from sinking into the silt and help her to balance. **W**hen you see a pink flamingo like Flamie, take a moment to admire their beauty. **P**ink flamingos are extraordinary animals!



Source: Chat GPT

Flamie, the Pink Flamingo!

Do you know Flamie? She is a beautiful pink bird, who lives in marshes and lakes. Flamie is very elegant with her pretty feathers and long, thin legs. Flamie likes to be with other pink flamingos. Sometimes, they band together in big groups to eat and rest. Do you know why Flamie is pink? It's because of the food that she eats. She eats small shellfish that look like tiny shrimp. Flamie moves around easily in the water thanks to her webbed feet. They stop her from sinking into the silt and help her to balance. When you see a pink flamingo like Flamie, take a moment to admire their beauty. Pink flamingos are extraordinary animals!



Source: Chat GPT