

Reading Roundup

Amazing Grace

Written by Mary Hoffman
Illustrated by Caroline Binch

Reading Roundup
Partners



Introduction

Gather the students around you so that they are able to see the illustrations of the book. Most classrooms will have an area rug defining this space. Introduce yourself and tell the students that you are excited to share Amazing Grace, written by Mary Hoffman and illustrated by Caroline Binch.

Before Reading

As we read this book together, let's think about Grace, the main character. Grace is a strong young girl who goes for what she wants and doesn't mind working hard to get it.

Let's read together to see what else we can learn about her. We'll stop along the way to think about what we're learning about Amazing Grace.

During Reading

- Begin reading the book by starting on the title page. Hold the book so that students are able to see the illustrations. Give plenty of time for students to “read” and think about the pictures. Continue to read through page 11.

- **Pages 10-11 - T/T -** *I'm thinking about what I know about Grace so far. Think about the words and the pictures and talk to a partner about what you know about Grace.* (Grace loves stories. She loves stories so much that sometimes, before they're finished, she'll act out her favorite part. Grace has a good imagination.) Continue reading through page 13.

- **Pages 12-13 - T/T -** *Think about the words and the illustration and talk to a partner about something new you know about Grace.*

(Grace is determined to be Peter Pan in the play. Even though her classmates tell her she can't play the role, Grace keeps her hand up high in the air and looks straight ahead. This tells us that Grace is determined, strong, and confident.) Continue reading through page 21.

- **Page 20-21 T/T** *I'm thinking about the author's words, "When it was Grace's turn to be Peter, she knew exactly what to do and all the words to say – she had been Peter Pan all weekend." We know a lot about Grace already, but what do we learn here when the author writes, "-she had been Peter Pan all weekend."? Think about the words and the illustration and talk to a partner about something new you know about Grace.* (Grace practiced all weekend so she would be ready for the audition. She knew it would a long-shot to play the role of Pater Pan, but she was willing to work hard and do her best. Grace is hard-working and determined.)

- Continue reading the rest of the story making sure students have time to “read” the illustrations.



After Reading

- - **P -** *Grace is the main character in this story. What did we learn about Grace?* (By looking at the illustrations and listening to the words, we learned that Grace is creative, determined, hard-working,...)

- - **P -** *There were other interesting characters in the story: Ma, Nana, Raj, Natalie. Which character are you wondering about? Which character would you like to know better and why?* (Answers will vary.)

Remember, it's wonderful to have dreams, but creativity, imagination, determination, and hard work are what make dreams come true.

Vocabulary

Amazing – better than great p. 1

Exploring – looking, searching p. 6

Adventure – something you do that's usually exciting or scary p. 9

Imaginary – made up, not real p. 19

Auditions – show what you can do, try out p. 20

**WORD
WAGON**