



Running words: 349

Book Summary

This story is about a man named Dave who runs a successful food truck. Dave begins his day early, making food to sell and buying supplies of fresh fruit and vegetables. Dave has a schedule of places where he sets up his food truck – the city, the beach, and the park. He enjoys interacting with the customers and cares about them and their preferences. One day, his regular customers surprise him with flowers to thank him for his friendly service. Dave responds by renaming his business “The Happy Food Truck”, as a way of showing his customers that he enjoys serving them.

Themes

Careers, Food, Relationships

Features of the Book

- The information contained in the illustrations
- Content words for discussion: *customer, liked, ready*
- Phonics and phonemic awareness: consonant blend - *ck*; long vowel sounds - *balloon/food/smoothies/soon*

Strategies

Dave's Food Truck introduces and reinforces the following strategies:

- making predictions;
- determining main ideas;
- asking and answering questions.

Materials

- Copies of the Sentence Strips reproducible for this book, cut and ready for use
- Copies of the BM, pencils

Dave's Food Truck

by Janine Scott

Introducing the Text

Begin by asking the students to think of any times they have seen or visited a food truck. If they haven't, explain what a food truck is and where they might see one. Write their answers in a list.

- *What kinds of tasks would a person who runs a food truck have to do?*
- *Would you like to run a food truck? Why or why not?*

Reading the Text

Hand one book to each student. Ensure that the content words (*customer, liked, ready*) are integrated naturally into the discussion. An understanding of these terms will help the students appreciate the author's purpose and the decisions the characters make in the story. Encourage the students to use the information in the illustrations and text to make predictions, then to revise or confirm these as you work through the book.

Cover

Together, read the title and the name of the author on the cover and the title page. Look at the illustrations.

- *Who is on the cover?* (a man selling food from a food truck, his customers, and passers-by)
- *Where are these people?* (near the water)
- *What do you predict this story is about?* (running a food truck)

Pages 2 to 3

- *What do you think is happening on these pages?* (Dave is starting his day – getting up and buying supplies for his food truck.)
- *What is Dave putting in his truck?* (fresh fruit and vegetables)

Read the text together. Confirm that Dave starts his day early, making food and buying fresh supplies.

- *What do you predict Dave will do next?*

Pages 4 to 5

- *What is Dave doing on these pages?* (serving customers)
- *Where has Dave parked his truck?* (on a city street)

Read the text together. Confirm that Dave's first stop is in the city. Also, have a student point out the speech marks on the page. Remind the students that these marks indicate who is speaking in the story.

- *Why do Dave's customers like to come to his food truck?* (He makes them smile and laugh, and he is interested in their lives.)
- *Where do you predict Dave will go next?*

Pages 6 to 7

- *Where has Dave taken his truck now?* (to the waterfront)
- *What are the people doing?* (walking dogs, roller skating, standing in line at the food truck)

Read the text together. Confirm that Dave's second stop is at the beach.

- *What is another reason Dave's customers like to come to his food truck?* (He knows what their favourite foods are and makes sure he has them ready.)
- *Where do you predict Dave will go next?*

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Pages 8 to 9

- *Where has Dave taken his truck now?* (to the park)
- *What is different about this stop?* (There are no customers in line at the truck.)

Read the text together. Confirm that Dave's third stop is the park, but his usual customers have not arrived. Discuss Dave's reaction to Mandy's absence. What does it say about Dave that he is worried about Mandy?

Pages 10 to 11

- *What did Dave's customers give him?* (flowers)

Read the text together. Confirm that Dave's regular customers have surprised him with flowers to say thank you for his friendly service.

- *What do you predict is Dave's surprise for his customers?*

Page 12

- *What is different about Dave's truck?* (It has been renamed "The Happy Food Truck".)

Read the text together. Confirm that Dave has renamed his truck to show his customers why he likes serving them in his job. Discuss with the students whether running a food truck is the right job for Dave.

Revisiting the Text

- Revisit the food truck tasks the students suggested before they read the story. Do their tasks match the things Dave does to run his food truck? Do the students have any questions about Dave's job? Ask them again if they would like to operate a food truck.
- Find and list the "ck" consonant blends in the story. With the students, add any other words they know that end in this blend.
- Write the words *balloon/food/smoothies/soon* on the board, and, with the students, create a list of other words that contain the long "oo" sound.

Following Up

- Encourage the students to think about the main idea of the story – what the job of running a food truck involves. Together, write a job description for a food truck operator. Have the students consider the kind of person that would like this job as well as the advantages of working in a food truck. Be sure to list the specific tasks involved in the job.
- Give the students copies of the BM for this story. They can use information from the story to write what Dave does in each location.