



The Lake

by Lily Richardson

Overview

This book shows children the effects of seasonal changes on and around a lake.

Literacy Focus *Word Count: 53 words*

High Frequency Words

from, is, it, on, people

Content Words

spring, wildflowers, bloom, lake, summer, birds, swim, fall, color, winter, freezes, skate

Reinforcing Decoding Skills

- **Short Vowel Sounds:** *i* (swim, drink)
- **Long Vowel Sounds:** *a* (lake, skate)
- **Initial and Final Consonants:** *l* (lake, sail)

Print Conventions

- **Capitalization:** First words in sentences

Comprehension/Thinking Skills

- **Comparing and contrasting**
- **Using illustrations to understand text**
- **Making inferences**

Text Features

- **Bold-faced type**

Writing/Speaking and Listening

- **Completing a comparison chart**
- **Talking about seasonal changes**
- **Participating in a class discussion**

Observe/Assess

See Graphic Organizers on page 173.

Science Focus

Content and Thinking Skills

- **Observing the seasonal changes that take place around a lake**
- **Understanding that changes in the environment can be observed**
- **Identifying seasonal activities**

Background Information

Seasons are experienced at opposite times of the year in the Northern and Southern Hemispheres. The seasons are caused by the tilt of Earth as it revolves around the sun. The Northern Hemisphere has its longest day of the year on about June 21 and its shortest day of the year on about December 21.

Correlation to National Standards Earth and Space Science

- **Changes in the Earth and Sky**

See Standards Chart on page 206.

Literacy Focus

Set the Scene

Discuss the seasons in your area with children. Ask:

How is summer different from winter?

What do we do differently in summer and winter?

Read and Discuss

Cover and Title Page

Ask children to look at the cover and title page. Read the title and author's name to them. Invite them to look through the book and predict what it is about.

Pages 2-16

Read the text to children and have them look at the pictures. Make sure children understand that each sentence begins with a capital letter. Point out that the word in bold-faced type names one of the four seasons. Discuss what each season is like in the area where you live.

Respond

- Write on the board the words *drink* and *swim* as you say them, emphasizing the short *i* sound. Ask children to cut out magazine pictures of people drinking or swimming and label them *drink* or *swim*. Display all the pictures and use them in activities to reinforce the short *i* sound.
- Direct children's attention to page 16 and ask them to find two words with a long *a* vowel sound (*skate*, *lake*). Point out that the long *a* vowel sound in these words is spelled with a CV*Ce* pattern. Invite children to name other examples of long *a* words with this pattern. Write them on the board.

○	○	○
skate	lake	age
gave	made	place

- Write the letter *l* on the board. Have children find the words *sail* and *lake* on page 4. Say the following words and ask children to identify whether the *l* sound is at the beginning or end of the word: *like*, *land*, *girl*, *school*, *leap*, *pail*, *load*, *seal*, and *boil*.



Content Words

Activity Master, page 136

For Activity Master, page 136, have children use the Word Bank to name each season on the lake.



English Language Learners

To reinforce the name of each season, have children draw pictures of the seasons and label them. Children can use the pictures to review the names of the seasons.

Science Focus

Science Concept

As the seasons change, changes in nature can be observed.

Activities

In Season

Divide children into four teams and assign each team one season. Have each team make a poster of the season, showing pictures that reflect seasonal weather and activities done in that season.

Seasonal Wheel

Label the names of the seasons on a spinner with four sections. Have children take turns spinning the spinner and noting something characteristic of the season on which the arrow stops.

A Seasons Calendar

Display a large calendar that shows the 12 months on a single page. Highlight and label the seasons with different colors. Refer to the calendar throughout the year.

Poems for All Seasons

Read seasonal poems to children. They can be found in many poetry collections, such as *Read-Aloud Rhymes for the Very Young*, selected by Jack Prelutsky.



Charting the Seasons

Activity Master, page 137

Have children use Activity Master, page 137, to compare the seasons at the lake.

Name _____

The Lake

Use a word from the Word Bank to complete each sentence.

Word Bank

spring

summer

fall

winter

Trees change color in the _____.

Wildflowers bloom in the _____.

The lake freezes in the _____.

People swim in the lake in the _____.

Name _____

T h e L a k e

Complete the chart. Use the words in the Word Bank.

Word Bank

fall	fish	sail	skate
spring	swim	summer	winter

Season	What It Is Like at the Lake	What People Do at the Lake
	Wildflowers bloom.	
	Birds drink from the lake.	
	Trees change color.	
	Lake freezes over.	