

A Platypus? Probably. Reading the Book's Question and Shrug A Platypus, Probably - Grade 1
- Short lesson

TIME

OBJECTIVE

PRODUCT

9 minutes Read the book's opening and closing frame with accurate wording and a wondering, understated voice. A fluent paired reading of the opening question and closing "A platypus? Probably." Essential question: How should the question rise and the word Probably land?

Materials

- The book
- Word cards: eucalyptus, Gondwana, monotremes, burrows, venomous Text to mark
- Opening - the question comparing the creature to familiar animals
- Ending - the fisherman's answer, "A platypus? Probably."

Lesson sequence

1 The frame, twice - 4 min Read the opening question and the closing answer. Ask what the voice should do at Probably: shout, or smile? Read both again with the wondering voice. 2 Accuracy and landing - 5 min Preview the five difficult words, then reread the ending together. Keep the wording accurate and let Probably land softly, certain enough without turning it into a shout.

Teacher key

The opening should sound genuinely wondering. The closing Probably should sound calm and lightly amused rather than uncertain or loud. Support & extension

Support:

Echo-read the opening and closing after the teacher and practice the shrugging sound of Probably before reading it in the sentence.
Extension: Read one night-hunting sentence in the same wondering hush and explain how punctuation controls the pace.

Assessment

- Reads the opening accurately
- Uses a questioning/wondering voice
- Reads Probably as a soft, controlled landing
- Maintains accurate pronunciation of the previewed words

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