

Constellations supports the competencies in the English as a Second Language Elementary program by providing a curated database of high-quality texts from the cultures of the English-speaking world.

ESL Elementary Cycle I:

***C1: to act on understanding of text;
C2: to communicate orally in English***

Stories and songbooks written for native English speakers provide a major source of authentic language in the student's second language.

When selecting books for Elementary Cycle One ESL students, we consider books that can be read aloud by the teacher, feature a highly predictable sequence of events and have lively recurrent passages.

After a story has been read a few times, students naturally join in, repeat recurrent passages and discuss the story.

As the book is read aloud, students make connections and comment on the story. In the last sentence ... repeat recurrent passages, retell and discuss the story.

ESL Elementary Cycles II-III:

C1: to interact orally in English

Stories in Cycles Two and Three are most often read aloud by the teacher. Books expose students to a wide variety of vocabulary that can be reused in oral interaction to express their own ideas and to understand others.

Students discuss the content through predicting, inferring and taking picture walks. They discuss what happens in the story with peers and share ideas about it.

ESL Elementary Cycles II-III:

***C2: to reinvest understanding
of oral + written texts***

Books are read aloud and discussed as a whole group before students are asked to interact, read or write in small groups or on their own. Students discuss what happens in a story with peers, share ideas, and make text-to-self, text-to-text or text-to-world connections.

They reuse the words, expressions and text structures to compile information through graphic organizers or to write their own or shared texts.

**ESL Elementary
Cycles II-III:
C3: to write texts**

Books provide models of good writing. They allow students to notice language forms being used in an authentic context.