

Lesson 23 • Songbird



Songbird, pages 2–5

Level 12, Lexile 330L

A first-person narrative chapter book written by Claire Kamber and illustrated by Dale Newman. Ling and her grandpa spend lots of time together. She misses him a lot when she moves away.

Comprehension strategy focus

Making Inferences: Inferential comprehension: answering questions based on clues in the text. Good readers think as they read. They ask and answer questions to help them focus and to build better understanding. Good readers look for clues in the text to help them make inferences. Looking for key words in the questions and in the text will help students find the right answers.

The two worksheets for this lesson reinforce inferential comprehension skills by asking students to make inferences.

Online objectives

Students will:

- Predict actions and outcomes
- Understand the meaning of words
- Interpret character feelings
- Use context clues to understand complex vocabulary

National Curriculum

Reading—Word reading

Apply their knowledge of root words, prefixes and suffixes (morphology and etymology) to understand the meaning of new words

Reading—Comprehension

- Develop pleasure in reading, motivation to read, vocabulary and understanding by:
 - Listening to, discussing and expressing views about a wide range of contemporary and classic stories
 - discussing and clarifying the meanings of words, linking new meanings to known vocabulary
- Understand the books they can already read accurately and fluently and those they listen to by:
 - making inferences on the basis of what is being said and done
 - predicting what might happen on the basis of what has been read so far

Online lesson sequence:

- *Inferential Comprehension Video*: how to use clues in the text to make inferences.
- *Cover Story*: predicts what the story will be about.
- *Dictionary*: understands the meaning of these **focus words**: bamboo (noun), born (verb), cage (noun), means (verb), spent (verb).
- *Pictures Have Feelings Too*: interprets character feelings.
- *Words in Context*: uses context clues to understand this complex **vocabulary**: moved, spent.
- *Read the Extract*: *Songbird* (pp. 2–5).
- *Comprehension Quiz*
- Map book *Lighthouse Lucy, Chapter 3: The Tangled Squid* is unlocked.

Online assessment

- Students complete a 10 question comprehension quiz. The quiz tests literal, inferential, vocabulary and usage, text analysis and critical literacy comprehension skills. Example questions are:
 - How old is Ling when she is telling the story?
 - What is the likely reason that Ling's Australian friends call her Lily?
 - Which word is opposite of friend?

Additional writing response

Pretend you are the girl in the story. Write a letter to Grandpa in China, telling him about Australia.

Lesson book pages

