

# Leveled Readers Theater, Grade 3

## Come! Sit! Stay!

This play is about the grand opening of a dog training school, but from the dogs' points of view!



### Characters:

Narrator    Murphy    Pepper    Angel  
Coco    Geroni    Princess

#### 1. Build Background

Explain that dogs have unique personalities just as people do. Ask students how many of them have dogs. Then ask each student to use one word to tell the class about his or her dog's personality. Tell students that this play is about six dogs, each with a different personality.

#### 2. Assign Parts

The reading parts for the narrator are infrequent, but they are longer than the other reading parts, so they are well suited to a student reading on or above grade level. The reading parts for Murphy, Angel, Geroni, and Princess are well suited to students reading on grade level. The reading parts for Pepper and Coco are short and repetitive, so they are well suited to students reading below grade level.

#### 3. Introduce Vocabulary

**Dictionary:** Point to each pictured word. Read the word aloud and have students echo you. Discuss word meaning as needed.

**Words to Know:** Point to each word. Read the word aloud and have students echo you. Explain the use of slang to students, using *mentis* and *whoddy* as examples. Also point out the use of apostrophes to replace omitted letters. Discuss word meaning as needed.

#### 4. Preview the Script

Guide students in previewing the script. Have students look at the illustrations and make predictions about what will happen in the play. Then go through the script again, page by page, having students highlight their reading parts.

#### 5. Practice the Script and Share the Play

Have students read the script aloud as a group several times. Model how to use intonation and expression to develop each character's personality. After students are able to read the script fluently, have them read the play for an audience.

#### 6. Conduct Follow-up Activities

Model the chant for students. Talk about its rhythm and rhyme. Have students echo you as you recite the chant again. Then have students recite the chant as a group. Distribute practice pages 96-98 and guide students in completing them.

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