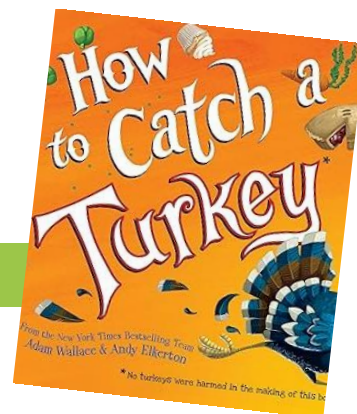




How to Catch a Turkey

READ ALOUD GUIDE

Themes: Problem-Solving, Teamwork

Book Brief: A hilarious adventure where students must use clever traps and quick thinking to catch a tricky turkey before the Thanksgiving play begins!

Author:
Adam Wallace

Illustrator:
Andy Elkerton

BEFORE READING

The Cover: Ask students to make a prediction about the story based on the cover and title.

The Pictures: Take a quick picture walk and ask students what they notice about the illustrations.

Prior Knowledge: Ask, "Have you ever had to solve a tricky problem? What strategies did you try?" Explain to students that this story is a fun, fictional tale about kids who need to work together to solve a problem before their big school play.

Vocabulary: Frontload Tier 2 words using the accompanying [Vocabulary Guide](#).

Purpose for Reading: "As we read, pay attention to the different traps and plans the students try. Think about what works, what doesn't, and how they solve their problem."



Think Aloud: "I notice the students keep trying different ideas even when their traps don't work. They're not giving up—they're learning from each attempt and trying something new. That's good problem-solving!"

DURING READING

Check for understanding & make connections:

- What problem are the students trying to solve?
- What are some of the traps or ideas the students try?
- Why is the turkey so hard to catch?
- If you were trying to catch the turkey, what would you try?

AFTER READING

Our Purpose: "What strategies did the students use to try to catch the turkey? How did they finally solve their problem?"

Extending Our Thinking: Ask students, "What was the most creative trap or idea in the story? If you could design your own turkey trap, what would it look like?" Encourage students to draw and label their own turkey trap design, showing what it's made of and how it works. Students can share their designs with the class.

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Explore RIF's [Thanksgiving Collection](#) for more books aligned to the holiday.
- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more about the topic by reading other books with similar themes, structure, characters, or content.