

Fancy Nancy



READ ALOUD

Themes: Family, Individuality, Imagination, Word meaning

Book Brief: Nancy loves everything fancy, but her family is plain and simple. She tries to teach them fancy ways, but a messy night changes everything.

Author(s):

Jane O'Connor

Illustrator(s):

Robin Preiss Glasser

BEFORE READING

The Cover: Have students make predictions about the story based on the cover.

The Pictures: Take a brief picture walk and ask students what they notice about Nancy.

Prior Knowledge: Ask students, "Do you know any fancy or unusual words. Have they ever dressed up or done something that felt special?"

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

Purpose for Reading: "Today we'll read to see how the author uses fancy words and plain words together to help us understand what new words mean."

DURING READING

Check for understanding & make connections:

- When Nancy says her favorite color is "fuchsia," what plain word does she use to explain it?
- Why does Nancy want to teach her family to be fancy? What does that tell us about her?
- After the tray flips and Nancy says she doesn't feel fancy anymore, how do you think she feels? What clues tell you?

Think Aloud: "When I read that Nancy's dad is a 'chauffeur', a fancy word for driver, I notice the author gives me the hard word and the easy word right next to each other. That helps me figure out new words. I'll watch for that pattern as we read."

AFTER READING

Our Purpose: We read to see how the author pairs fancy and plain words. Which fancy-word pair was your favorite? How did the plain word help you understand the fancy one?

Extending Our Thinking: Have students use [RIF's Use this Concept Map](#) before, during, and after reading to deepen students' understanding of a concept, make connections, and build comprehension.

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more Fancy Nancy by Jane O'Connor:
 - [Fancy Nancy at the Museum \(I Can Read Level 1\)](#) (2008)
 - [The 100th Day of School: Fancy Nancy—I Can Read!™](#) (2009)
 - [Fancy Nancy: There's No Day Like a Snow Day](#) (2012)