Penguin in Peril

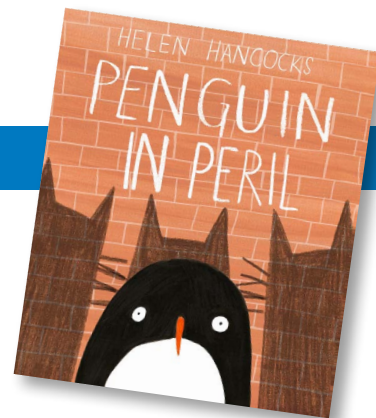## A RIF GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

Themes: Animals, Art

Book Brief: Three hungry cats have a foolproof plan for a fishy feast—all they need is a penguin to do the fishing. Will these cat burglars get their feast, or will the penguin slip through their paws? Read to find out!

Author and Illustrator: Helen Hancocks

Content Connections: Science, Social Studies, Art

TIME TO READ!

BEFORE WE READ, LET'S LOOK AT...

The Cover: Have students guess what the book will be about based on the title and cover illustration. What does "in peril" mean? What kind of shadows are behind the penguin?

The Pictures: Flip through the pictures. What do you notice about the cats? Do they behave like normal cats or like people? Where do you think the story is set? Why?

Prior Knowledge: Ask the class what they know about penguins. Have any of them ever seen a penguin? Where do penguins typically live? What do they eat? Do they fly like other birds?

Vocabulary: penguin, peril, zoo, anxious

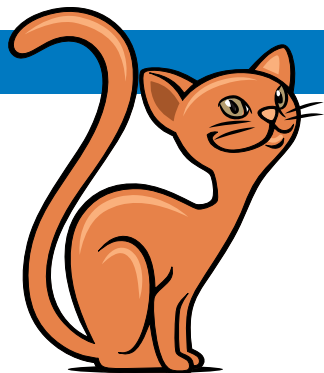**Purpose for Reading:** As we read, pay attention to how the penguin tricks the cats.

WHILE WE READ

MONITORING COMPREHENSION

- What is the cats' plan? Why do they need a penguin?
- Why can't the cats tell the penguin their plan?
- How does the penguin escape? How does he hide from the cats? List at least 3 ways.
- How does the penguin get back to the zoo?
- What happens to the cats after the penguin escapes?

LET'S THINK ABOUT

Our Purpose: How does the penguin trick the cats and escape? Why do the cats have trouble following the penguin? How does the penguin *camouflage* himself using his surroundings?

Extending Our Thinking: People, animals, and plants all use camouflage to hide themselves. Can you think of any examples? Why is camouflage important in nature? What are some other ways that plants and animals protect themselves from predators?

NOTE TO EDUCATORS

- Extension Activities for Educators also available.
- Vocabulary Scaffolding Sheet also available.

RIF
Reading Is Fundamental