

## Going to School: Preschool-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

A RIF Guide for Educators

**Themes:** Elementary School, Back to School, Going to School

**Book Brief:** This guide is designed for use with books about going to school at the Preschool to 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade reading level. Adapt the questions and activities in this guide to the book you are reading.

**Content Connections:** ELA, Social Studies

### Time To Read!

**Before we read, let's look at...**

**The Cover:** What is the title of this book? Who is the author? Who is the illustrator? What is happening in the cover illustration? Based on the cover, what is happening at school? How do the characters feel about school?

**Prior Knowledge:** Why do we go to school? What do we do at school?

**Vocabulary:** Identify 3-5 words that are likely to be new to your students and introduce them before you read this book with your class.

**Purpose for Reading:** It's important to know who a story is about, where it takes place, and what happens. As we read, think about the characters, settings, and major events in the story.

### While We Read

**Monitoring Comprehension**

- Retell this story as a class.
- What is the central message or lesson of this story?
- Choose two major characters. Compare and contrast their experiences and feelings in the story.
- Choose one character and describe how he or she feels throughout the story. Which words let you know?

### Let's Think About

**Our Purpose:** Who is in this story? Where does this story take place? What major events happen in this story?

**Extending Our Thinking:** Going to school can bring on many emotions for young children. Write "When I'm at school, I feel \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_," on chart paper. Ask each student to fill in the blanks, writing the words they give you on the lines below. As a class, discuss the many emotions we can feel about going to school.