
Introduction

About the Graphic Novel

All of the chapters and activities found in *High Interest/Low Readability Graphic Novel: Miles and Lizzie Save the Earth* have been specifically designed for students who are reading below grade level; for students who have reading disabilities; and for students who are reluctant or discouraged readers.

The engaging chapters are written between the early first grade through mid-second grade reading levels. Each chapter's specific reading level and word count can be found above the chapter title on the Table of Contents (page 4). This information will help guide the teacher in choosing chapters that are appropriate for the individual needs of the students. (*Reading grade levels are not printed on any of the chapters or on any of the reproducible activity pages.*)

Since struggling readers are often intimidated and easily overwhelmed by small print, each chapter was created with an easy-to-read font. The font, picture clues, and sentence structure will help the children feel more self-confident as they read the chapters included in *High Interest/Low Readability Graphic Novel: Miles and Lizzie Save the Earth*

All of the stories use high-frequency words and essential vocabulary. A list of the story's high-frequency words, as well as any special words that are necessary for each chapter, are found on pages 60 and 61. Prior to reading each chapter, review the word lists and introduce and practice any unfamiliar words. Discuss the meaning of each new word. Make flash cards of the new words and outline each letter with glitter glue to provide a tactile experience for the students. Draw a picture of the word on each card to help the students visualize any new vocabulary.

About the Audio CD: "Miles and Lizzie Save the Earth"

Each chapter comes with its own auditory narration — read by the story characters — and begins with a few seconds of introductory music. Following the music, the narrator will provide the number and title of the chapter. That is the student's clue to listen. The story characters will then read the content of the chapter exactly as it is printed on the student's copy.

For many struggling readers, being able to listen to each chapter first can be extremely beneficial. Knowing the content ahead of time provides students with the opportunity of using context clues to help decode words and for interpreting the meaning of the story. For other students, being able to track the text as they listen to the words allows for a multi-sensory experience. Students can hear the words; see the words; and can touch each word as they follow along while listening to each of Miles' and Lizzie's exciting adventures.

About the Activity Pages

Paper and pencil tasks are often "not fun" for struggling readers. The majority of the reproducible activity pages are divided into two different activities per page. The teacher may choose to assign both halves at once. The diversity of the two different activities should encourage the children to finish the page and not become bored or frustrated. The teacher may also choose to cut the page in two and assign each half at different times.

Coloring, drawing, solving puzzles, and cutting and pasting activities have been included. These types of activities reinforce a wide range of reading skills and are often viewed as "more fun" by the students.

In short, *High Interest/Low Readability Graphic Novel: Miles and Lizzie Save the Earth* will provide your students with a complete reading experience.
