



Cool Crow Party

Name

Date

Student Response

My score for this book is/10.

It was a book.

1. Cool Black Crows

C..... black cr.....,
we are the b.....t!

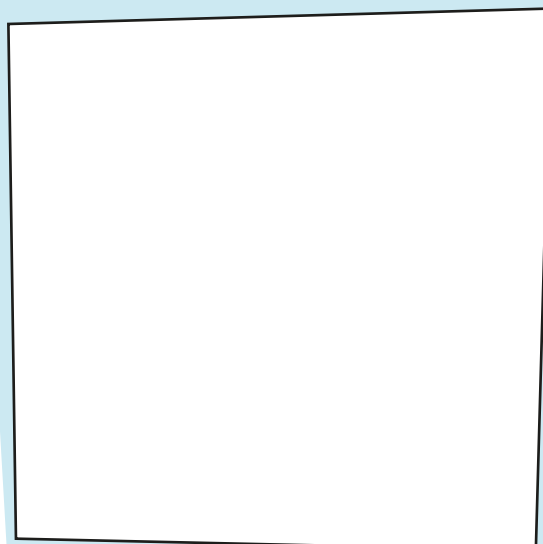
We dance around
a very cool n.....t.

We eat cool cr.....
and cr..... cr..... too.










Then we all s..... and dance!
Oh yes, we do!



2. Draw a tree house for the cool crows.



3. Read, cover, spell!

Read	Cover	Spell
best	 st	.....
come	 me	.....
cool	 ol	.....
cracker	 acker	.....
crow	 w	.....
crows	 ws	.....
crumbs	 rbs	.....
crusts	 sts	.....
nest	 st	.....
sing	ng	.....



You've finished!
What will you read next?

Grusilda



Inside Front Cover: Glossary

Title Page: Story Introduction

Teaching Unit

Cool Crow Party

Level 9 Fiction – Verse

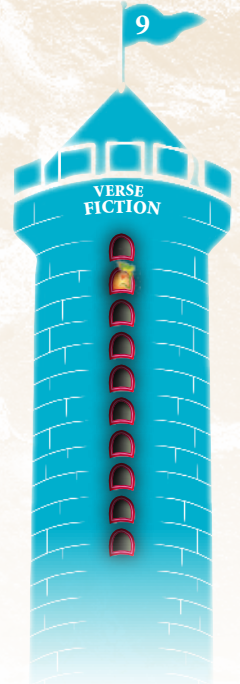
Curriculum: English; Science; Arts

Book Synopsis: A humorous verse about crows who only want to party with other cool crows.

Non-High Frequency Words: The word count is less than other books at this level to increase support for words that are not repeated. Rhythm and rhyming words will also help students.

High Frequency Words: *Cool Crow Party* has an above average percentage of high frequency words.

Comprehension: The Teaching Unit's focus is on seven areas of comprehension – connection, inference, importance, questioning, summarising, synthesis and visual. We advise teachers to tailor literal comprehension questions for each group.



Page 2

Narrative Verse – Orientation

Introduce the characters, place and purpose.

Language Features

Adjectives and nouns: very cool party; cool black crows

Contractions: we're, it's

Words starting with "c", "cr": cool, crows

Comprehension – Inference, Visual, Connection

What could be the reasons for the crow party?

If you were the illustrator, what other party costumes would you have drawn on each crow?

English, Maths, Economics and Arts Activity

Students draw a bunch of crow-shaped balloons with mini-crows on them. They write a for-sale sign, e.g. Buy Balloons for Cool Crows!



Page 3

Narrative Verse – Event and Complication

Another species of bird is not allowed to attend the party.

Language Features

Contractions: "can't" is repeated twice ("we're" on page 2)
Verse structure: explain that in this verse, the writer focuses on short lines of text (phrases and clauses) to create meter, rhythm and fun, instead of sentences written for a narrative.

Words starting with "c": cool, can't, come

Comprehension – Connection, Inference, Question

What question do you think the bird asked the crows? How might the crows reply? Would you have let the bird join in?

English, Science and Arts Activity

Students design and write a sign for the cool crows' house door, e.g. "Only cool crows are welcome!"



Pages 4 and 5

Narrative Verse – Event

The crows describe what they do at cool crow parties and how they feel about the event.

Language Features

Compare and pronounce: **crow** and **crowded**

Rhyming words: nest, best

Words starting with "s": sing, songs

Comprehension – Inference, Importance

Why do you think it's important for these crows to sing and dance? What kinds of songs/dances might they sing/dance? Is it a good idea to have a crowded party? Why?

English and Arts Activity

Work with the students to collectively compose and illustrate a new crow song. A suggested title "Crazy Cool Crows Crow!"





Now what would a cool dragons' party be called?
I like "Dressy Dragons' Dancing Disco!"

Pages 6 and 7

Narrative Verse – Event

The coolest crow party continues.

Language Features

Comparative adjectives: coolest ("cool" pages 2–3)

Words starting with "cr": crusts, cracker, crumbs, crow ("crows" page 2; "crowded" page 5)

Comprehension – Inference, Visual

Crows eat other kinds of food, e.g. fruit, grains and small insects. What other foods might they like to eat at the party? What would you like to eat?

English, Arts and Health Activity

Discuss healthy party food and drinks. Draw and write an invitation to a fancy-dress crow party. Students can choose a different bird starting with "p" or "cr", e.g. Penguin Party; Crane Party. Draw healthy food on the invitation, too.



The verse ends with cool crows flying in from all directions towards the coolest crow party! I wonder if they would let me in?



Page 8

Narrative Verse – Conclusion

The cool crow party attracts many more cool crows.

Language Features

Ellipsis: used between pages 7 and 8 to link the sentence.

Irregular rhyming words: comes ("crumbs" page 6)

Comprehension – Summarise, Synthesise

If the crows allowed other black birds to come, what might you see in this illustration? (e.g. common blackbirds, black swans)

How would you have ended the verse?

English, Science and Arts Activity

Discuss some titles for a blackbird's birthday party, e.g. "The Blackbird's Blast-Off Birthday Party".

SCIENCE Crows

Crows have a very large brain; studies have shown they can be as smart as chimpanzees! They use tools, such as twigs, to open nuts; and they have a complex set of calls to communicate with each other!

Student Activity

Student activity sheet
(free download/PDF)



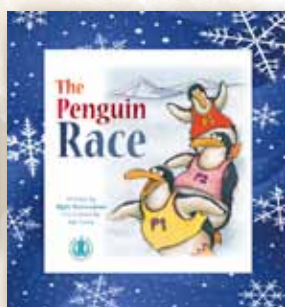
Group Activity

Chart: "Our Party Birds"

Students choose a species of bird to draw and write book covers for, e.g. The Pretty Penguins' Party; The Crazy Cranes' Party; The Lovely Lorikeets' Party.



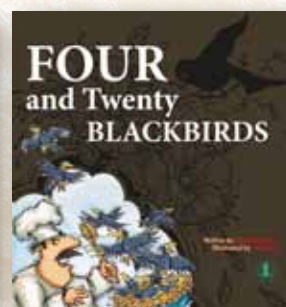
Check out these other books for projects about **birds**.



The Penguin Race
Level 9: Fiction,
Narrative



Birds, Birds, Birds, Birds
Level 10: Non-Fiction,
Description



Four and Twenty Blackbirds
Level 13: Fiction,
Traditional Verse



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