Wishy-Washy Corn

Features of the text:

- Inter-text connection with Mrs Wishy-Washy
- Punctuation: upper and lower case letters, full stops, commas, speech marks, exclamation marks, ellipses
- Problem solving
- Humour

Before Reading

- Ask the children to tell you what they know about growing plants.
- Ask, Where do plants come from?
- Introduce the text: Wishy-Washy Corn.
- Look at the cover and title page. What clues do they give about the story? Ask, What do you think Mr Wishy-Washy is going to do?
- Making meaning: making personal connections
- Analyzing the text: visual literacy, prediction

Reading the Text

- Ask the children to read the text quietly.
- Give the children something specific to focus on. For example, Read the book to find out what happened to the corn plants.
- If necessary, guide the children's reading of one or two pages, then encourage them to read on quietly.
- Children may draw upon all text features during the reading of the text. Help individual children as necessary.

After Reading

- Notice the phrase *Lovely corn!* (p. 6). Encourage the children to think of other words for Duck to say.
- Notice the past tense verbs *planted* (p. 2) and *grew* (pp. 3–5). Clarify the meaning and encourage the children to think of other verbs connected to growing plants.
- Ask the children, Which part of the corn plant do you think the animals like to eat?
- Invite the children to eat corn from a corn cob.
- Encourage the children to plant some corn seeds and watch them growing into plants.
- Notice high frequency words: said, Come, and, into, see, my.
- Notice the ellipses on pp. 4–5 for anticipation.
- Notice the illustration on p. 8 and ask, How does the illustrator show that Mr Wishy-Washy is confused?

- Using the text: considering how words are used (vocab)
- Making meaning: inference, inquiry
- Cracking the code: punctuation, high frequency words
- Analyzing the text: recognizing illustrator's role