

## **One of my all-time favorite books for questioning- Brave Irene**

Marcia, I love this book too!!!! I used this book to elicit questions from the students (after I had done lots of modeling via thinkalouds on previous days). My students had lots of questions before, during, and after this story.

Day 1: I started by sharing the title and the cover and then asked if anyone had any questions. (The cover picture is great - it has Irene walking through the snow with a large box in her hands.) Students wanted to know what was in the box and why she was walking through the snow, etc. Then I did a picture walk of the first half of the book and asked if there were any more questions. (I didn't show the second half of the book because I didn't want my students to figure out what was going to happen by looking at the pictures - as Marcia said previously the storyline in this book is great - and I wanted students to keep asking questions and not know all of the answers). Then I started reading the book. Every so often I stopped for more questions. (This is hard to explain - you have to know your class and how many stops they can handle and how many questions they can listen to.) Then after I finished the story, I allowed more questions to be asked. (Sometimes I have students turn to a partner and share a question so that more questions are asked.)

Day 2: (a la Debbie Miller) On the previous day I had quickly written down the questions that were asked. After school I wrote the questions on a chart. So on day 2 I started by reading the questions to the class. I told them we were going to see how many we could answer, then we would label the questions as to whether they were answered in the text (t), if we inferred the answer (i), or never answered (n). I read the story to the class and we discussed each question, tried to answer it and then labeled the question t, i, or n. (Note: the exact labels you use do not matter - Since my goal was to both introduce inferring and remind students that not all questions are answered - I had them label questions that way.)