

Thinksheet

Rising 3rd Grade

The Night Flower by Lara Hawthorne

Home Activities

Caregiver Connections

In The Night Flower, your child will learn about many plants and animals found in a desert habitat. The ideas below can support you as you read this book with your child, or while you listen to your child read this story of the Saguaro Cactus.

- Before Reading:
 - Read the title. Make a prediction about what habitat this flower will be found in, and what kind of flower we might learn about in the book. Ask your child, "What leads you to make these predictions?"
 - Open the book and read the informational paragraph on the title page. Brainstorm with your child why the author is telling this information at the beginning of book, before the story even starts. Ask your child, "What could be the author's purpose of writing this book?"
- During Reading:
 - Encourage your child to read aloud and think about the text while reading. Ask questions to further explore his/her thinking such as "Do you notice anything about the structure of the text, or how the sentences and words are laid out?"
 - Prompt your child to explore the meaning of words throughout the story. On page 4, ask "Do you know what retreat means? Why do you think the author used that word instead of rest?" Be sure to point out any words that may be unfamiliar and discuss their meaning.
- After Reading: Spend some time visiting the interactive pages at the end of the story, including the Saguaro Life Cycle, Did You Spot?, and the glossary. Revisit pages to clarify vocabulary as needed.

Creation Station:

• **Visit the Local Library:** Find additional books about the desert habitat and its plants and animals. Look for and check out additional books written and illustrated by Lara Hawthorne!



These resources were prepared by GELF's Educator Advisory Council, a group of 28 Tennessee educators, to encourage engagement with the K-3 Home Library books distributed to students over the summer.

