Let’s Go Fishing

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Practice reading these sentences.

Fran dragged the fishing pole across the grass.

A big, strong fish tugged on the pole.

They tripped into the creek.
It was hot. Fran and her mom sat under a tree. Fran splashed her feet in the creek. Then Fran grinned and hopped up.

Point to Fran. Point to her mom.
Where did Fran and her mom sit? [Fran and her mom sat under a tree.]
What did Fran do? [She splashed her feet in a creek, then grinned and hopped up.]
Fran “grinned” means that Fran smiled. Show me “grinned.” (TPR)
Fran greeted her pal, Deena.
“Hi, Deena!” said Fran.
“It’s hot,” said Deena. “Let’s go fishing!”
“O.K.!” agreed Fran. “Let’s get the fishing gear.”

Who is Fran’s pal? [Fran’s pal is Deena.] A “pal” is a friend.
To “greet” means to say hello.
What is Deena’s idea? [She wants to go fishing.]
What do they need to get? [They need to get the fishing gear.]
Fran’s dad kept fishing gear in a small shed near the creek.

The kids ran to the shed.
Deena grabbed the fishing net.
Fran dragged the long fishing pole across the grass.
The kids dug for worms under the tree.

Where did the kids run? [The kids ran to the shed.]
A “shed” is a small building. Point to the shed.
What things did they get from the shed? [They got a fishing pole and a fishing net.]
What did the kids do under the tree? [They dug for worms.]
Deena and Fran propped the fishing pole on a rock. The fishing pole snapped back fast! “A fish!” screamed Deena. “I can reel it in!” Deena leaped up. She tugged at the pole.

Demonstrate “prop” with a pencil. 

Why did the fishing pole snap back? [A fish was on the end of it.]

Deena wanted to reel in the fish. Demonstrate “reel in” by pulling an imaginary fishing pole and turning the wheel for the line.

Show me how you reel in a fish. Show me how you tug on a pole.
The big, strong fish began to drag the pole into the water.

Deena said, “Fran, help me hang onto the pole!”

The pole was slipping fast! Fran grabbed it.

What did the fish do? [It began to drag the pole into the water.]

Why was the pole slipping? [The fish was pulling it.]

Make a Prediction: Will the girls catch the fish?
(T-P-S) Have the students support their predictions.
Fran and Deena tugged and tugged. SPLASH! The kids tripped into the creek! Deena dropped the pole. “Oh, no!” said Deena. “The pole is lost!”
Deena spotted the pole. A rock had trapped it. Mom helped Fran and Deena grab the pole. “Do we still have the fish?” asked Fran.

What did Mom do? [She helped Fran and Deena grab the pole.]
What does Fran ask? [“Do we still have the fish?”]
“No,” said Mom. “No fish is tugging on the pole.” Fran and Deena were sad. “The big fish is lost,” said Deena. “But we can fish again,” said Fran.

Why were Fran and Deena sad? [They had lost their fish.]
What is Fran’s idea? [Fran says that they can fish again.]
Fran felt a tug on the pole.
“Oh,” yelled Fran. “Look at the pole! Is the fish back?”
“Yes,” said Deena. “I can see the pole bending.”
Fran said, “Grab the net. I can reel in the fish.”

How does Deena know a fish is tugging on the pole? [She can see the pole bending.]
What is Deena going to do? [She will grab the net.]
Deena grabbed the net. Fran reeled in the fish. Mom helped Deena dip the net in the creek. They dragged the net up on the grass. “Oh, look,” said Deena.

What did they do with the net? [They dipped it in the creek to get the fish.]
Fran, Deena, and Mom could not believe their eyes. They all started to laugh. What do you think they caught?

“It is not a fish,” said Deena. “A big crab is in the net,” said Fran. “We got a big crab, not a big fish!”

Did they catch a fish? [No, they did not catch a fish.]
What did they catch? [They caught a big crab.]
“Help,” screamed Fran. “The crab is creeping from the net! He can nip my feet.”
Fran ran to the tree.
The crab ran back to the creek and slipped in.
Mom, Deena, and Fran grinned.

Deena and Fran couldn’t wait to tell Dad about the surprise they had on their fishing adventure.

The crab was “creeping” from the net. That means he was slowly moving out of the net.
Why did that scare Fran? [She thought the crab would nip her feet.]
What did the crab do? [He ran back to the creek and slipped in.]
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Use T-P-S to discuss these questions.

1. What did Fran and Deena decide to do?
   [They decided to go fishing.]

2. Why didn’t Fran and Deena catch the fish?
   [The fish dragged the pole into the water. Deena dropped the pole, and the fish got away.]

3. What will the girls tell Dad about their fishing adventure?
   [They will tell him that they caught a crab instead of a fish. The crab got away.]
Reading Roots, Level 3

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