



The A-Stars and the Zigzags both want to win the Harmony School Talent Show. Who will the students love the most?

CEFR Level A1+
 YLE Movers
 Text type: modern story
 Word count: 537
 Lexile measure: 480L

Lesson objectives

Vocabulary focus

Talent show: *band, dance, dancers, music, song*
 Verbs in the past simple: *danced, enjoyed, knew, liked, loved, played, practiced, sang, saw, talked, wanted, won*

Adjectives: *excited, exciting, first, great, happy, last, new, old, young*

General: *of course, school, student, teacher*

Grammar focus

Past simple

Reading skills

Retelling a story

Cross-curricular connections

Art (design a poster)

Music (song)

Social studies (working together)

Resources

Reader

Activity Book

Flashcard download 1–5

Audio download (UK/US) tracks 1, 2, 4

Timing: 40–60 minutes

This is to be used as a general guide and will depend on group size, the pace of learning, and the children's language ability.

We would suggest 10 minutes for **Before reading**, 20 minutes for **During reading**, and 10 minutes for **After reading**. Additional time can be used for further activities.

Lesson plan

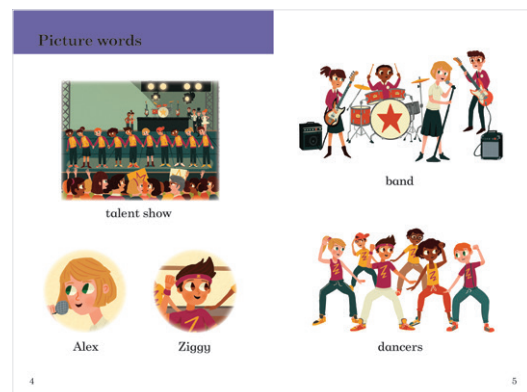
Before reading

Show the children the cover of the Reader, but hide the title. Ask: *Who are these children? What are they doing?* and establish that they are in a band. Ask more questions, for example: *How many people are in this band? What is the girl doing?* and elicit that she is singing. Ask: *Do you know any bands? Do you have a favorite band?*

Reveal the title and read it aloud. Explain what a talent show is, and ask if the children have ever seen or taken part in one.

Ask the children to look at pages 4–5 in the Reader, and show them the pictures. Ask more questions, for example:

Who is the boy? Is he in the band? How many dancers can you see? Which has more people, the band or the dancers?



During reading

Read out or play the recording of the text (Audio track 1). Ask the children to follow in their books. Every couple of pages, stop and ask the children to retell that part of the story. Encourage them to use their own words, and help them by asking questions. For example, after Reader pages 14–15, ask:

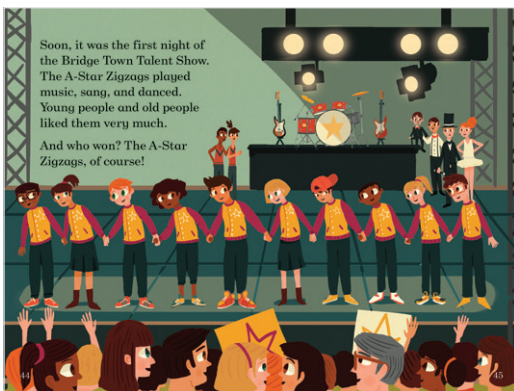
What happened on the first day of the talent show? Who was in the talent show? Who was watching it? Did they like it?



Read or play the story again. Focus on the ending, and ask questions, for example:

What did the A-Star Zigzags do at the Bridge Town Talent Show? Who came to see it? Did they enjoy it?

Encourage the children to give complete answers using the past simple.



After reading

Divide the children into two teams. Take turns making a statement about the story to each team to check their memory and understanding. Ask them to tell you if the statement is true or false, and give a point for

each correct answer. For example, say: *Alex is in the A-Stars. There are four boys and four girls in the Zigzags. Mr West is in a band.*

Give extra points if the children can correct the false sentences.

Discuss the questions in activity 16 on Reader page 62 with the children. Ask if they would like to be in the A-Stars or the Zigzags, and to give their reasons.

The children can do the following activities to focus on retelling the story:

- Reader activities: 2, 7, 8, 9, 15
- Activity Book activities: 5, 6, 8 (Audio track 2)

Play the song (Audio track 4) on Activity Book page 16. Divide the children into two groups: Group A and Group Z. When you play the song, ask Group A to join in with the lines about Alex, and Group Z with the lines about Ziggy. All the children should join in with the lines about the talent show. Swap the groups round, then repeat.

Differentiation

Extra support

Draw two columns. Write *The A-Stars* at the top of one, and *The Zigzags* at the top of the other. Ask the children questions to elicit information about each group, and write their answers in the appropriate column. For example, ask:

What do the A-Stars do? How many people do they have? How many are boys? How many are girls?

Extension

Fast-finishers can make a poster advertising the Bridge Town Talent Show. They should include information about where it will take place, the time, and the date.