

Lesson Plan



Topsy and Tim like going to the farm. They help the farmer, get some eggs, see the animals, and give a calf some milk.

CEFR Level Pre-A1

YLE Starters

Text type: modern story

Word count: 194

Lexile measure: 300L

Lesson objectives

Vocabulary focus

Animals: *calf, cows, ducks, geese, hens*

Farm: *eggs, farm, farmer, gate, milk*

Family: *brother, mommy, twins*

Colors: *black, blue, brown, green, gray, orange, pink, purple white, yellow*

Numbers: *one calf, two ducks, etc.*

Grammar focus

Answering questions

Present simple

Reading skills

Identifying details in a story

Cross-curricular connections

Mathematics (numbers)

Music (song)

Science (animals)

Resources

Reader

Flashcard download 1–12

Audio download (UK/US) tracks 1, 2, 3, 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.

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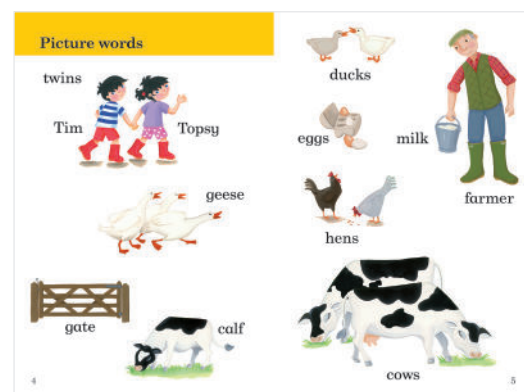
Before reading

Show the children the cover of the Reader and ask: *What can you see?* If the children don't know the vocabulary, say: *There are some children and some hens. Look, the girl has got a baby duck!* Ask questions to focus on details, for example:

How many children are there? And how many hens? What color is the baby duck?

Then ask: *Where is this?* Establish that it's a farm. Read out the title of the story. Ask the children if they know Topsy and Tim. If they do, ask what they know about them (they are twins) and what other Topsy and Tim stories they know.

Ask the children to look at Reader pages 4–5 and introduce the vocabulary to them. Ask further questions to focus on details.



During reading

Read out the story or play the recording (Audio track 1). Ask the children to follow in their Reader. After every few pages, stop and ask questions to check the children's understanding and to get them to identify details from the story, for example:

*Who is Topsy's brother? Who goes to the farm?
What do Topsy and Tim get for Mommy?
What is a baby cow? What do the children
give the calf?*



To practice numbers and colors, you could also encourage the children to look at the pictures and ask further questions, for example:

*How many hens/ducks are there?
What color are the hens?*



After reading

Display the Flashcards one at a time (you can cover the words with your hands). Ask questions to check what details the children can identify, for example:

Flashcard 3: *What animals can you see? How many are there? What color are they?*
Flashcard 9: *What has the farmer got?*

Play a game with the children to get them to remember details from the story. Divide the children into two teams. Read out the story again, but this time, change some of the details. Ask the children to put up their hands when they hear a detail that is not correct, and to correct it. For example:

Pages 14–15: *Topsy and Tim get some eggs. They take them to the farmer.*

Pages 18–19: *"Come and look," says the farmer. "We have a baby hen at the farm."*

Give a point for each correct answer, and the team with the most points wins.

The children can do the following activities to focus on the present simple:

- Reader activities: 1, 2, 3, 4 (Audio Track 2), 6, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 16

To finish the lesson, play the song (Audio track 4) and ask the children to listen and follow in their book. Assign the words *Topsy*, *Tim*, *geese*, *gate*, *cows*, *calf*, *ducks*, *eggs*, *milk*, *farmer*, and *hens* to different groups of children. Play the song again, and ask the children to stand up each time they hear their word.

Repeat the song and encourage the children to join in with the first and last verses.

Differentiation

Extra support

After reading, do Reader activities 6 and 8 out loud with all the children. Ask them to write the answers down.

Extension

In pairs, fast finishers can do Reader activity 8. Then they can ask each other similar questions about other pages in the story.