

Introduce the book and word list

Read aloud the title with children. Have them describe what mud is like (*soft, wet, sticky dirt*) and tell what the kids in the picture are doing (*standing in mud, picking it up*). Ask children if they think the kids are having fun in the mud (*probably*) and what makes them think that. (*The title of the book is We Like Mud.*) Then have them flip through a few pages of the book. Ask if they think this book is a made-up story about kids playing in the mud or an informational book about how animals use mud. (*informational book about animals*) Have them discuss how they think different animals might use mud.

Read aloud the word list on the inside front cover. Explain that a **wasp** is an insect like a bee, a **thrush** is a kind of bird, and a **potter** makes pots and other things with clay.

Guide reading as needed

Listen to children read aloud individually or in small groups. Use the questions to check their understanding of what they just read.

Page 1 **Gobs, globs, and blobs** are drops of something thick. What does the boy like gobs, globs, and blobs of? mud (Understand vocabulary)

Page 5 Do river otters and ducks like mud? yes Do they like it for the same reasons? no What do river otters do in mud? slip and slide in it for fun What do ducks do in mud? dig for bugs to eat (Connect ideas: Compare and contrast)



Genre: Informational text (science)
Key vocabulary: wasp, thrush, potter, gobs, globs, blobs, protects

Page 7 How does mud help frogs? It can hide them from other animals that eat frogs. How does mud hide the frog in the picture? The mud is about the same color as the frog, so the frog in the mud is hard to see. (Connect pieces of information)

Page 9 What's alike about how the thrush and potter wasp use mud? They both use it to make a place for their eggs to hatch. Why is the wasp called a potter wasp? It makes pots out of mud. (Connect ideas: Compare and contrast; draw conclusions)

Page 11 Why do butterflies drink from puddles? Mud in the puddles has salt and other things in it that butterflies like to drink. (Connect ideas: Cause and effect)

Page 13 **Protects** here means "to keep safe from." How do you think mud protects a pig from the sun? It keeps the pig cool and from getting a sunburn. (Connect ideas: Draw conclusions)

Page 14 What do the girls like to do in mud? play in it Which other animal likes mud for the same reason? the river otter (Connect ideas: Compare and contrast)

Discuss the book after reading it

1. What is this book all about? mud and why different animals like it What are some of the animals that like mud and why do they like it? Answers will vary depending on what children recall. If needed, have them look back at the pictures. (Identify main topic; retell details)
2. Which of the different uses of mud do you think are the most interesting? Why? Answers and reasons will vary. (Give and support opinions)
3. Would you like to play in the mud? Why or why not? If yes, how would you play with the mud? Answers and reasons will vary. (Connect text to self)

Focus on author's purpose

Tell children that sometimes authors write books to try to get readers to think about something in a different way. Ask children what they think the author of *We Like Mud* was trying to get readers to think about mud. (*that mud can be good*) Have them discuss how the author tries to get readers to think this way. (*She titled her book We Like Mud. She names lots of animals, says they like mud, and gives reasons to explain why.*) Point out that the book gives

lots of examples of how mud is helpful for people and animals. Ask if the book tells about anything that's bad about mud. (*no*) Point out that people and animals don't always like mud and have children discuss some of the reasons why. (*Mud can get you dirty when you want to be clean. Things can get stuck or lost in mud. Fast flowing mud can hurt people and destroy homes.*)

Independent Activities

- Have children reread the book several times for fluency practice.
- On Practice Page 9, have children cut out the animal pictures and glue each one by the sentence that tells how that animal uses mud.
- Have children write "I [like/don't like] mud." and another sentence or two to say why. Ask them to draw a picture to help show their opinion.

