



The Spelling Bee

A Reading A-Z Level I Leveled Book

Word Count: 310

LEVELED BOOK • I

Connections

Writing

Pretend that you are Jasmine. Write an apology letter to Finn. Include why you are sorry and how you will try not to hurt other people's feelings in the future.

Spelling and Vocabulary

Have a class spelling bee using the words in the book's glossary.

The Spelling Bee

**Multi
level
I.L.O.**

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Written by Jill Sherman
Illustrated by Laura Zarrin

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Focus Question

What is the lesson of this story?

Words to Know

apology
caterpillar
fail

nervous
spelling bee
win

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Level I Leveled Book
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Correlation

LEVEL I

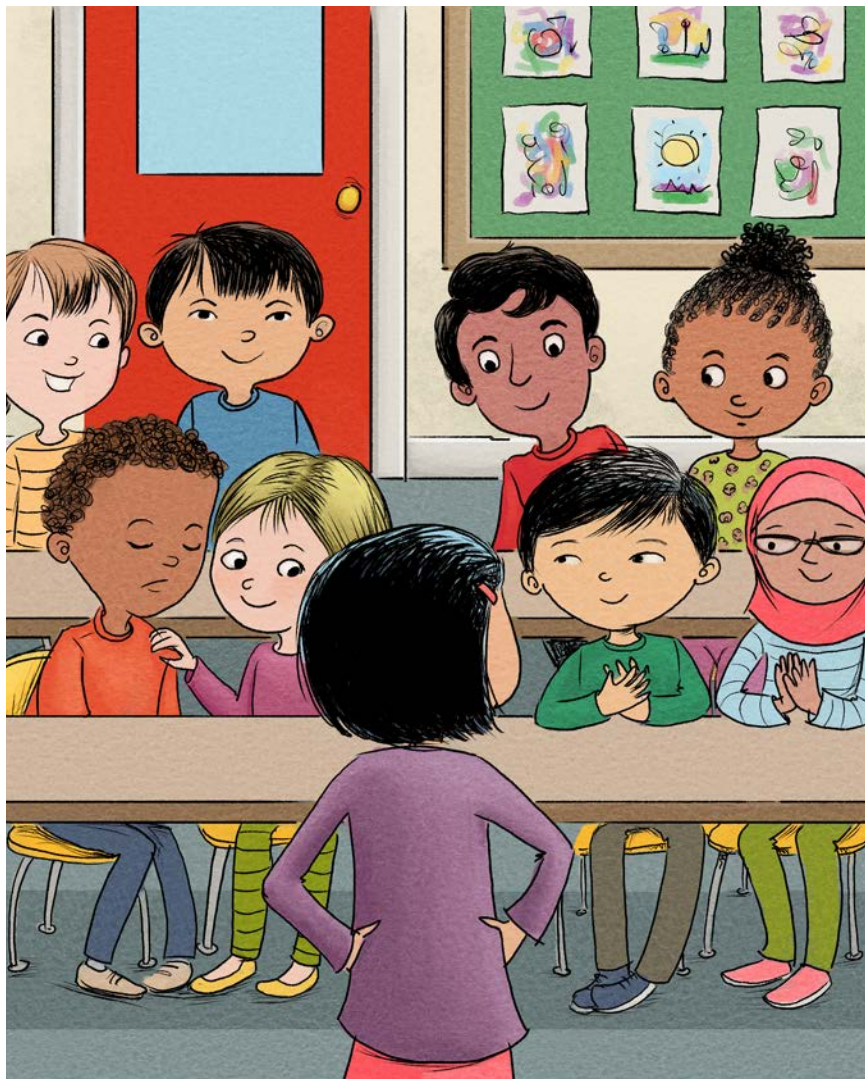
Fountas & Pinnell	I
Reading Recovery	15-16
DRA	16



Jasmine was sure she was going to **win** the class **spelling bee**. Only she and one other speller were left.



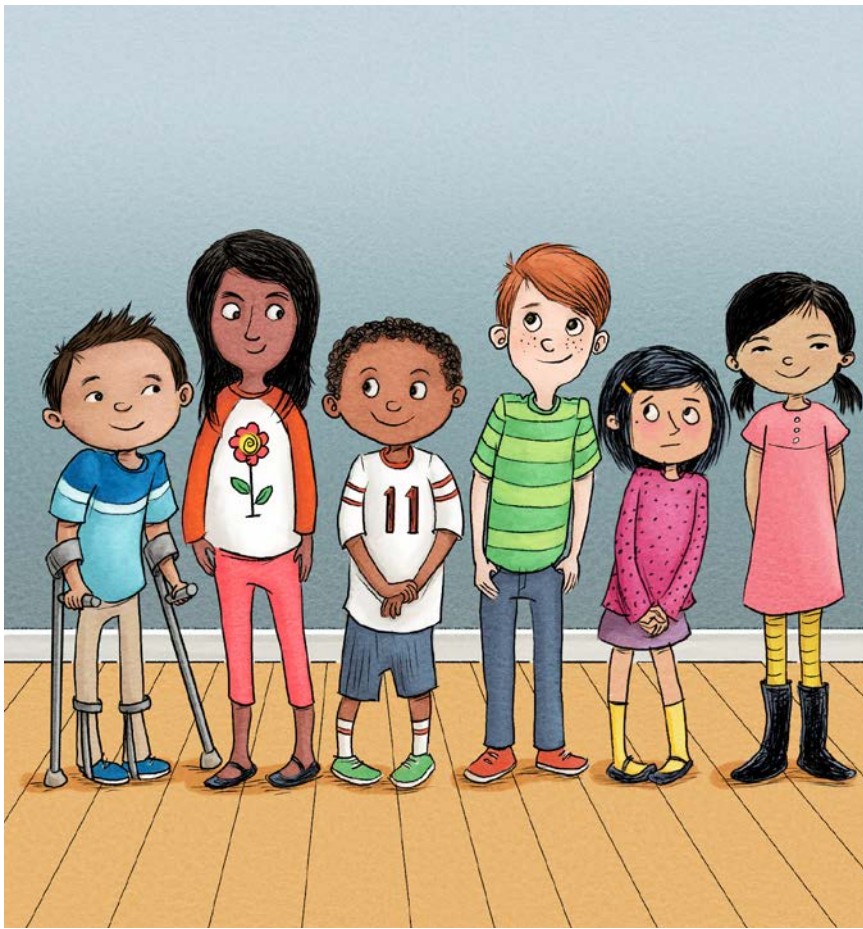
Mr. Russo said, “Finn, your next word is **apology**.” Finn spelled it wrong.



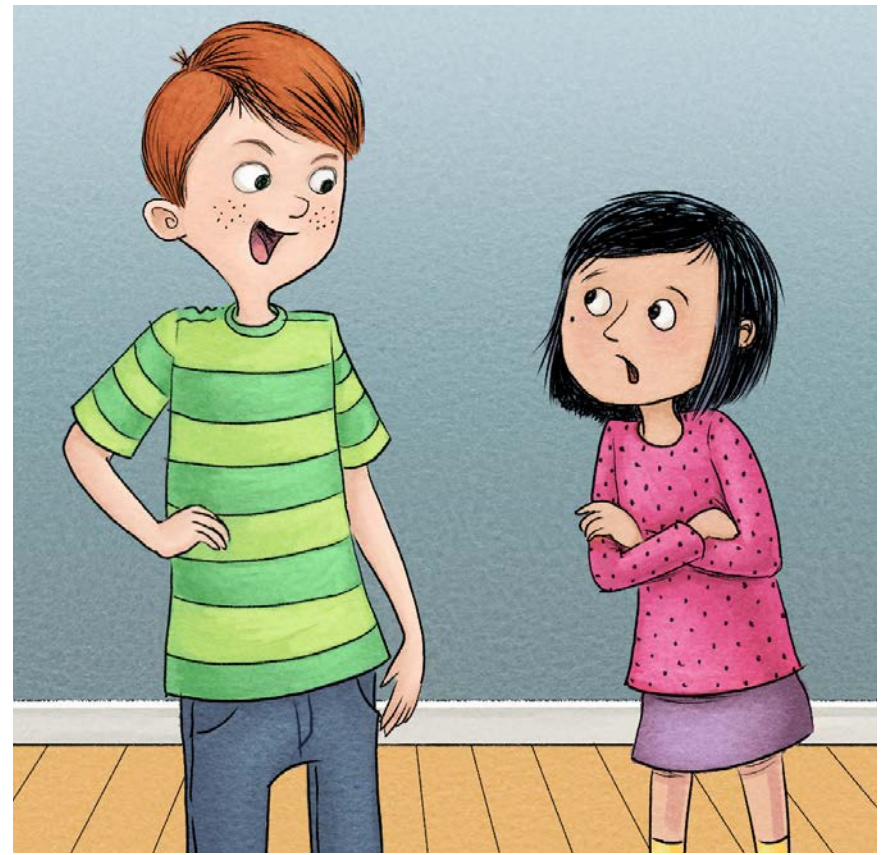
Jasmine smiled.
Then, she spelled it the right way.
She spelled one more word.
Then, Mr. Russo said, "You won!"



At lunch, Lilly said, "Tomorrow
you will be in the school-wide
spelling bee!"
"It should be easy," Jasmine said.
"I will probably have to spell
baby words like the ones today,"
she added.
Finn looked sad.
"I guess so," he said.



The next day, Jasmine met with the other class spelling bee winners and Principal Lopez. She had not thought about the older students she would have to spell against.



Jasmine saw Josh, a fourth grader she knew.

"I think I'm going to win," she told him.

Josh laughed.

"A second grader has never won," he said.



Jasmine became **nervous**.
*What kind of words will I have
to spell? she thought.
I should have looked at the word
list Mr. Russo gave us.*



The whole school was at the
spelling bee.



Jasmine was really nervous as she waited for her turn.



Finally, Principal Lopez said to her,
“Your word is **caterpillar**.”
She never spelled this word before.
Jasmine said, “Caterpillar. C-A-T.”
Then, she said, “E-R-P.”
At last, she said, “I-L-E-R. Caterpillar.”
“I’m sorry, but that’s wrong,”
Principal Lopez said.



That was it.
 She was out on her first word.
 Jasmine looked at Finn.
 She thought about how she made
 him feel yesterday.



When Jasmine got back to her
 classroom, she opened the door.



"I'm really sorry," Jasmine said.
"It's okay," said Finn.
"Now I know how you felt," Jasmine said.
"It's okay to **fail**, but it's not okay that I was mean," Jasmine said.
"You never know how others feel until you're in their shoes," she added.

Glossary

- apology** (*n.*) an expression of regret for a mistake or an action that hurts someone (p. 4)
- caterpillar** (*n.*) the larva of a butterfly or moth (p. 12)
- fail** (*v.*) to not succeed (p. 15)
- nervous** (*adj.*) edgy or tense; afraid (p. 9)
- spelling bee** (*n.*) a competition in which people spell words (p. 3)
- win** (*n.*) to earn victory in a game, contest, or other competition (p. 3)