



"Is the spring coming?" he asked. "What is it like?"

"It is the sun shining on the rain and the rain falling on the sunshine, and things pushing up and working under the earth."

~ *Frances Hodgson Burnett, The Secret Garden*

APRIL

Draw and color a shape each day to keep track of any time you:



read a book,



write a story, or



draw a picture.





Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

 1	 2	 3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	Write a birthday card for Danny and send it to us to post on our Facebook page: talktodanny@icloud.com				

Thank you to Reading Specialist, Linda Beal, for this month's calendar idea. Photo from Favorite Nursery Rhymes from Danny.



Dates in April				
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Put a number one in the column that shows what the weather was like for each date in April.

Then add up the columns and answer the questions below:



How many sunny days were there in April?



How many cloudy days were there in April?



How many rainy days were there in April?



How many very cold days were there in April?

 Add up the columns

The Visual Sequence of Comics is Appealing to Young Readers

Graphic novels (or Story Scripts) are a casual mix of illustrations and text. They contain the same story elements and literary devices as narrative stories and are a different way to encourage students to practice their reading.

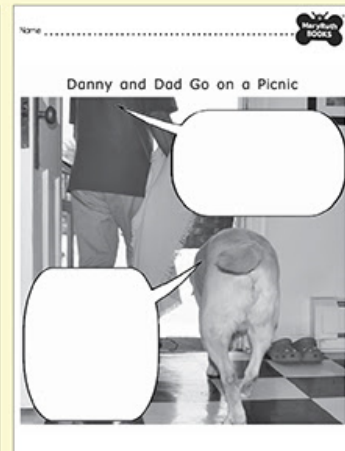
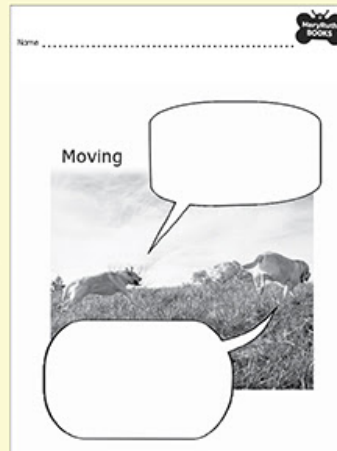
Our first MaryRuth Books title turned into a Story Script, [I Am Danny](#), is available for FREE download. Watch for email updates, and check our FaceBook page for download links, as other titles are introduced in the Story Script format in the coming weeks.

Teaching Inference as a Reading Strategy

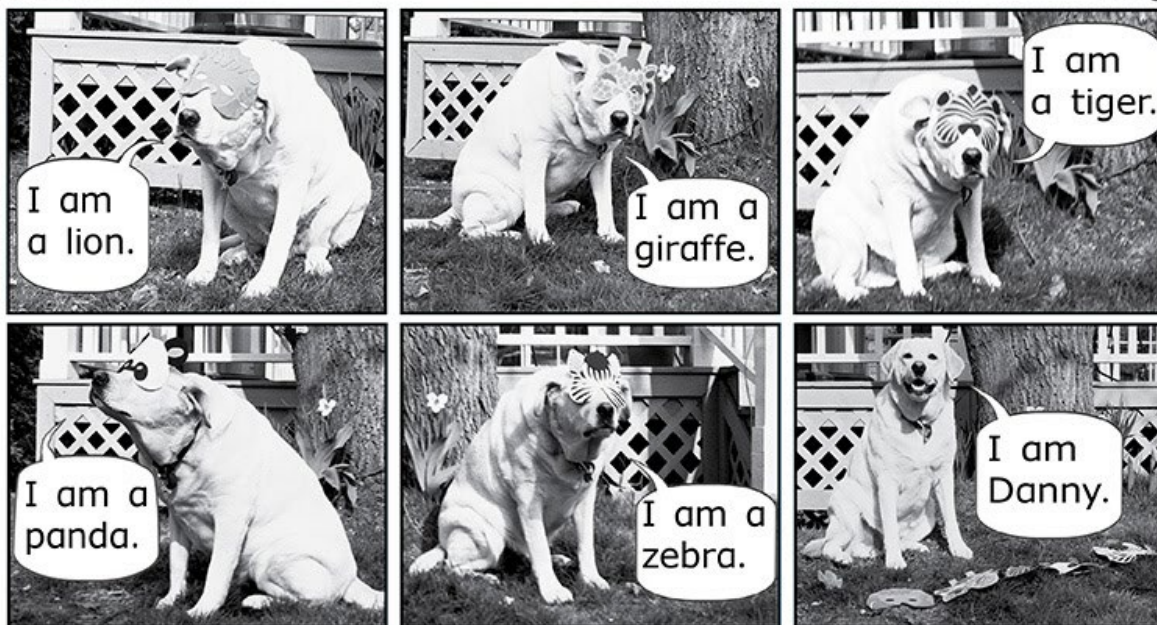
The pictures in graphic novels are a great source for helping to teach inference. With Story Strips, readers rely on the dialogue and illustrations. They must infer what is not written.

Speech Bubbles Can be a Fun Writing Prompt

Linking reading and writing is important. Use our FREE multiple page downloads of pictures with speech bubbles from favorite MaryRuth Books titles [Moving](#) and [Danny and Dad Go on a Picnic](#), to encourage students to create their own graphic stories.



I Am Danny



In *I Am Danny*, Danny puts on masks and pretends to be different animals.

Which animals does Danny pretend to be? Circle the animal words in the book above. (Hint: There are five.) Name another animal that Danny could pretend to be and complete the sentence:

I am a _____.

On the back of this paper, draw a picture of Danny wearing his new animal mask.